FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

1 NOVEMBER 1983

Lebanon

Dialogue Conference — Lebanon "is dying" and the National Dialogue Conference may be the last chance to extricate the country from its predicament, President Amin al-Jumayyil told the Geneva conferees in an opening speech broadcast by Beirut radio. Asserting that all sides in the civil war have ended up losers and have committed sins and injustices, Al-Jumayyil said Lebanon will survive only if its people are loyal to a strong and capable state whose principles and institutions are based on justice. The rights of communities must not be allowed to take precedence over the rights of individuals and the homeland, he contended, and deprivation is not limited to one community or area. After Al-Jumayyil's speech and an address by the Swiss president, the conference was adjourned until 1 November when the talks will begin in camera, the radio noted.

Reacting to Al-Jumayyil's remarks, Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri, in a statement broadcast by Beirut radio, criticized the president's reference to deprivation and his failure to mention the plight of occupied southern Lebanon and the Israeli-Lebanese agreement.

Meanwhile, Syrian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Faruq ash-Shar' stressed that if the dialogue is to succeed the conference must cancel the Israeli-Lebanese agreement and establish a "national government" to deal with the internal crisis, Damascus radio reported. Syrian forces will leave Lebanon only after they are "100 percent sure that the Israelis have unconditionally withdrawn without imposing any restrictions or obtaining any gains," Ash-Shar' added. The minister also warned that the consequences of a U.S.-Israeli "aggression" against Syria will be very grave, stressing that Syria is strong enough to defend itself and would be supported by the Arab nation and the vast majority of countries.

Further Clashes — Lebanese Army positions in Suq al-Gharb were subjected to renewed sniper and rocket fire and the Army returned fire, according to Beirut radio.

Israel

During a meeting in Qiryat Shemona reported by Jerusalem radio, Deputy Prime Minister David Levi warned that Syria "will be surprised and pay the full price" if it does anything to undermine Israeli security. Meanwhile, speaking to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir denied reports that Israel would remain in Lebanon indefinitely if the Lebanese-Israeli agreement is abrogated but stressed that scrapping the agreement "is no small matter," Jerusalem radio reported. Also, Shamir denied reports that Israel is negotiating with the United States on withdrawing opposition to the planned Jordanian rapid deployment force, asserting that Jerusalem will continue to oppose any increase in the military strength of a country that is "in a state of war with Israel."

Jordan

Jordan has "no connection whatsoever" with reports about "rapid or nonrapid deployment forces," Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim told the National Consultative Council in a speech broadcast by Amman radio. He said such reports are part of an Israeli-sponsored media campaign aimed at preventing Jordan from acquiring sophisticated weapons and retaining Israel's monopoly on advanced U.S. weapons in the Middle East. The foreign minister also said Jordan insists that the next Arab summit conference be held as scheduled with all sides attending so that the Arab states can attempt to stop the "deterioration and bleeding" and to solve outstanding problems.

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat received a Soviet delegation which expressed "the Soviet Union's support for the PLO and its legitimate leadership," North Lebanon Voice of Palestine radio reported. Meanwhile, another Palestinian group, the Palestine Liberation Front, declared its "total support" for the PLO led by Yasir 'Arafat, KUNA stated, and invited all Palestinian parties to a dialogue based on the "unity and democratic reform program" proposed by the PFLP-DFLP Joint Command.

The Palestinian dissident group Fatah-Revolutionary Council, which is led by Sabri al-Banna, announced that Jordanian authorities have launched a "wide-scale" campaign of arrests against its members in Jordan, the victims of which are handed over to Israel. The announcement, reported by Damascus radio, added that the Fatah-Revolutionary Council will "confront these practices in a suitable manner." In another development, a PLO spokesman cited by Algiers Voice of Palestine radio disclosed that Libya has expelled the PLO representatives in Banghazi and Tripoli, having first seized and searched their offices.

Iran-Iraq War

On 31 October three Iranian "naval targets" that were trying to enter Bandar Khomeyni were sunk by Iraqi naval and air forces, while two more were sunk by mines, according to an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio.

Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister Toshijiro Nakajima, beginning a trip to Iraq and Iran, called on Iraq not to bomb the

Japanese-Iranian petrochemical complex at Bandar Khomeyni and on Iran to ensure its safety, KYODO reported. After Nakajima's meetings with Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz — reported by INA — Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe said he received a report that Iraq "had paid attention to the Japanese call," adding that Japan had "succeeded" in its efforts, KYODO reported.

Libya

In a statement to JANA, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi predicted that unless "practical and concrete" results in the interests of Arab unity and against the enemy are achieved in 1983, "there are fears of a violent reaction during 1984," against which the "defeatist regimes" will have no arguments to defend themselves.

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'Arafat Receives Message via Soviet Delegation

NC312030 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1915 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and Palestinian Revolution Forces commander in chief, has received a Soviet official delegation which conveyed to him the Soviet leadership's view on the recent developments in the Palestinian and Arab arenas. The delegation expressed the Soviet Union's support for the PLO and its legitimate leadership, affirmed its commitment to supporting and consolidating the Palestinian struggle, and explained the Soviet leadership's understanding of the conditions of the Palestinian revolution and the Palestinian political and executive stands on the dangers and threats to which the Palestinian revolution is exposed because of foreign interference.

Brother Abu 'Ammar explained to the delegation the serious developments in northern Lebanon, around Tripoli, and in the Palestinian camps. He said he appreciated the Soviet Union's firm stands of support to the Palestinian struggle and to the PLO.

Brother Abu 'Ammar had received a Soviet delegation last Friday and gave it a message for Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov on recent events in the Palestinian, Arab, and international arenas.

PLO Spokesman Blames Syria for Fatah Dispute

GF271149 Ash-Shariqah Al-Khalij in Arabic 26 Oct 83 p 17

[Interview With Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman, PLO official spokesman and official in charge of unified media, by unidentified *Al-Khalij* correspondent in Tripoli, Lebanon -- date not given]

[Excerpt] *Al-Khalij*: More than 4 months have passed since the start of the internal conflict within Fatah and it does not seem that this conflict is going to end in the foreseeable future. What are the horizons of this conflict and how will it be settled on the ground? Militarily? Or is there still a chance to settle it within the legitimate framework?

'Abd ar-Rahman: Resolving the dispute within Fatah depends on resolving the dispute between Fatah and Syrian. Does Syria intend to achieve complete estrangement, or will it accept a return to coexistance, or is it searching for a possible accord? These questions are linked to the general situation in the Middle East and to the Syrian goals in Lebanon. Syria's goals in Lebanon contradict the goals of the Palestinian presence there, especially since the United States and Israel accepted the Syrian role in Lebanon, which started as a security role and has ended up as a political role that is likely to become a permanent role.

The Syrian leadership sees Fatah's independence and then the independence of the revolution as an obstacle to the establishment and reinforcement of the Syrian role in Lebanon by virtue of the danger this independence poses to the Syrian-Israeli conflict in Lebanon, because the resistance may carry out operations that embroil Syria in a war with Israel. And Syria says it seeks to achieve a strategic balance and that it is the one who decides the time and place of war. Syria also sees that the form of the joint forces and the joint command of the Lebanese-Palestinian forces poses a threat to its special goals in Lebanon. Thus, it is hitting them and is trying to eliminate them and remove them from the way of its special goals in Lebanon.

Facts and circumstances during the past 4 months indicate that the Syrian leadership has made up its mind against Fatah. It handed over to the dissidents who work with it all the gains and establishments of Fatah in Syria in various forms and now it is planning a wide propaganda campaign to support the dissidents and weaken Fatah under the leadership of Abu 'Ammar.

Thus, we see that Syria will establish an organization that belongs to it and which will affiliate its supporters in order to confront the main forces in the PLO so as to neutralize its military and political roles. This is the maximum that Damascus can achieve.

Baghdad PLO Urges Self-Restraint in Tripoli

JN311753 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1616 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] The General Command of the Palestinian revolution's forces in Tripoli and northern Lebanon has issued instructions to fighters in the area to exercise self-restraint and not reply to shelling by the dissidents and the pro-Syrian groups except in self-defense. These instructions come within the revolution's political and military line, which aims primarily at stopping Palestinian and Syrian bloodshed as far as possible and easing tension. It also aims at preventing the developments from causing clashes, which will be of use to nobody except the Zionist-American enemy.

PFLP-GC Spokesman Issues Warning to Dissident Jibril

NC282250 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1730 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Excerpt] The official spokesman of the PFLP-General Command has made the following statement: [Words indistinct] military action against the Zionist enemy, and while we are doing our utmost to preserve the unity of the Palestinian stance, as well as to safeguard the PLO command against any harm being done to it and to its [word indistinct], Jibril is massing his forces and armor [aliyat] around the Al-Baddawi and Nahr al-Barid camps, thus laying the groundwork [words indistinct] while bearing in mind that we remind Jibril and his group that the border with the Zionist enemy and the places where this enemy is present are not in the northern area nor in the area of the camps. These borders are in occupied Palestine and southern Lebanon.

We warn Jibril and his group not to embark on any criminal action against our Palestinian masses. Furthermore, we know how to answer those who plot against the will of our people and of our masses. Meanwhile, we emphasize that the fighters of the General Command will defend their camps and their masses under the slogan: "Victory or martyrdom."

PLO Official Rebuts Al-Khadra on Pay for Hittin

NC010953 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 1 Nov 83

[Text] An official source of the Palestine revolution command has made the following statement:

Tariq al-Khandra has stated more than once recently that the Palestinian revolution command and the PLO command suspended the payrolls of soldiers and officers of the PLA of Hittin and of the affiliated forces stationed in Syria. For the record, we clarify the following:

1. The PLO regularly finances these forces in monthly payments from the Palestinian national fund and hands these to the Syria headquarters. These payments amount to 200,000 Jordanian dinars per month, which is equivalent to 3.2 million Syrian pounds.

2. In May 1983, brother commander in chief Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] issued a decree adding 100,000 Jordanian dinars per month — the equivalent of 1.6 million Syrian pounds — in extra allowances to be paid direct to soldiers and officers through the Hittin command. The national fund is still honoring in full its commitments regarding the allocations, the payrolls, and the allowances.

It is noteworthy that Brother Abu 'Ammar, in his capacity as commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces and the Palestinian National Liberation Army, has issued a decree to rearm and supply four of the Hittin battalions, following the Beirut battle, from our central depots in Syria.

PLA Chiefs Reiterate Support for 'Arafat

JN281943 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1545 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] The chiefs of staff of the Palestine National Liberation Army [PLA] held an emergency meeting in Tunis all week. In addition to the chiefs of staff, the meeting was attended by the commanders of groups and forces and directors general of the branches. They were: the Commander of the 4th operations group, the commander of the 5th operations group, the assistant chief of staff of military institutions, the Army's inspector general, the commander of the 'Ayn Jalut forces, the commander of the Badr forces, the commander of the Ajnadin forces, the commander of the Sabra martyrs forces, the commander of the Shatila martyrs forces, the commander of the 'Ayn al-Hulwah forces,the commander of the steadfast Beirut forces, the commander of the Air Force, the deputy commander of the Al-Qadisiyah forces, the director general of the financial administration, the director of the organization and administration commission, the director general of operations and training, the director of intelligence, the director general of supply and logistics, and the director of military justice.

The conferees discussed the latest developments in the Arab and Palestinian arenas. They also discussed the conditions through which the PLO is passing and local and external conspiracies that are aimed at liquidating the PLO and undermining independent Palestinian decisionmaking in an attempt to upset trust in this decisionmaking as the principal pillar of legitimacy for the Palestinian national struggle.

They also discussed in detail Tariq al-Khadra's individual and opportunistic statements that were characterized by absolute subordination to Syrian and Libyan intelligence. Tariq al-Khadra was appointed to his post by a Syrian decision, and he exploited the name of the Hittin forces, which belong to the PLA and which are stationed in Syria. Tariq al-Khadra has no link to the PLO and its leadership.

The conferees unanimously agreed that Tariq al-Khadra's statement is a treacherous blow to the hopes and aspirations of the Palestinian people and is a conspiracy against the PLO and its leadership, which was elected by the last PNC. This statement also represents a real violation of the PNC's political, military, and organizational resolutions. The aim of this malignant behavior was to show a state of deep-rooted division among the ranks of the Palestinian revolution and Army, because this statement came as a free service to all the enemies' schemes. It is major crime against the Palestinian people.

After the conferees were informed of the results of the meetings that were held both with the forces and at press conferences and of the cables which denounced this stand and affirmed the Palestinian people's sole representation by the PLO — their sole legitimate representative — led by the commander in chief, Brother Abu 'Ammar, and which were sent by the commanders of the forces with the unanimous agreement of all ranks in all the Arab countries in which the Palestinian revolution forces are stationed, the conferees decided the following:

1. To reaffirm their absolute support for and complete commitment to the PLO under the brother leader, Abu 'Ammar, to support all of Abu 'Ammar's steps against the dissidents and the subordinates of the intelligence organs who cheaply sold their homeland, revolution, and themselves.

2. To reaffirm the commitment of the PLA's officers, cadres, and fighters to their oath and their promise to continue the national struggle under the leadership of brother commander in chief Abu 'Ammar, the symbol of our people's struggle and the leader of our march of struggle.

3. To condemn Tariq al-Khadra's behavior and consider that his statement does not represent any responsible Palestinian stand, but only himself and those who appointed him in a desperate attempt to cast doubt on the resolutions of the latest PNC, deviate from the PLO and its leadership, and incite sedition. His behavior is considered contrary to the expectations, wishes, and aspirations of the Palestinian people. Anyone who betrays his revolution, homeland, and people deserves to be punished.

4. The conferees hailed the steadfastness of our kinfolk and the masses of people in the occupied land against the racist Zionist invaders. They also hailed our people's support and rallying around the PLO and the leadership of brother commander in chief Abu 'Ammar.

The conferees also hailed our people's position on the conspiracies that are being planned to strike at the Palestinian revolution. They are being implemented at the hands of the dissidents, Jibril's gang, and the intelligence subordinates in accordance with the negative role assigned to these forces in the Lebanese and Palestinian arenas. The conferees also hailed our people's promise to continue with the revolution until victory, regardless of the price and great sacrifices.

5. The conferees expressed their appreciation for the honest and principled stand of the officers, cadres, and fighters of the Hittin forces, who are renowned for their military integrity and their national commitment to their homeland and revolution.

The conferees approved the immediate start, as of 11 November 1983, of an intensive training program to raise the standard of all forces' fighting efficiency and ability. They also approved immediately placing all forces on a state of alert in order to confront the urgent situation and existing developments in the Arab and Palestinian arenas.

They further approved an extensive enlightenment campaign in order to reinforce cohesion and confrontation against all forms of individual and group conspiracies.

6. This was followed by secret resolutions, which will be recorded in a special supplement.

Revolution until victory!

PLF Leaders Declare Support for PLO, 'Arafat

LD312201 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1607 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Kuwait, 31 Oct (KUNA) — Three senior Palestine Liberation Front leaders today declared "their stand by the side of the PLO, its unity, its independence, and its legitimacy under the leadership of struggler Yasir 'Arafat." Abu al-'Abbas, assistant secretary general of the front and military official of its forces, and two of his colleagues, Abu Ahmad, member of the Political Bureau and official responsible for the Syrian arena, and Khalil 'Abd ar-Rahman, member of the Central Committee of the front, declared that "they totally side with the PLO in any battle imposed on it," and affirmed adherence to "the declared political stand at the latest PNC, which stems from the Palestine National Charter, which rejects political settlement plans, from wherever they come, at the top of which are Reagan, Fes, and the confederation plans."

The three officials renewed their "complete rejection of both the Camp David agreements and the imperialist American-Zionist agreement of treason," stressing at the same time their rejection of dialogue "with Zionist forces and any attempt to break the isolation of Husni Mubarak's regime and their adherence to armed struggle as an essential way to decide the conflict with the Zionist enemy."

Abu al-'Abbas called for convening an emergency session of the PNC to be devoted to defining reconciliation principles for the coming stage. He also called for the formation of a committee with the mandate of taking to task those who committed mistakes or carried out encroachments at all political military and financial levels. Abu al-'Abbas pointed out that the positive elements in the Palestinian experience on the Lebanese arena outweigh the negative elements.

He blamed the Arab world for throwing its weight behind protecting a Lebanese situation in 1976 that was approved regionally and internationally, thus preventing the national Lebanese movement from making any political gains. He also blamed the national Lebanese and Palestinian sides for being responsible for listening to the official Arab policies pursued since 1976 in Lebanon which were aimed at containing the national movement and the resistance and imposing control over them. He admitted that the Palestinian resistance failed dreadfully in the Lebanese issue and said that this issue needs a long review.

Abu al-'Abbas, in the name of the Palestine Liberation Front, issued an invitation to all Palestinian parties for dialogue on the basis of the unity and democratic reform program presented by the joint command of the popular and democratic fronts in order to heal the existing rift, surmount the past negations, maintain the unity of the organization and the gains achieved in past years, and also to draw out a firm political posture that would remove the ambiguity in its Arab and international policies and also achieve democratic reform not only in Fatah but also in Palestinian organizations and the PLO.

He also called on the lawful establishments to exercise wide democratic criticism without any armed or outside pressures and to stop the fighting, raids, and attacks against the positions and offices of the organization and against the Palestinian masses aimed at forcing them to adopt a posture in which they do not believe. He called for freedom of responsible criticism in all Palestinian information and intellectual platforms. He also called on the Arab liberation movements to take part in the dialogue process because of the intertwining of Palestinian and Arab tasks and challenges.

Abu al-'Abbas praised the posture of the Soviet Union toward the Palestinian revolution. He said: "It is enough that we fought with Soviet weapons and with Soviet military training and that we received the biggest moral support from our Soviet friends." However, at the same time he regretted a lack of clarity in the real Soviet posture toward the split within the Fatah movement.

Abu al-'Abbas declared that his front, in participation with all Palestinian organizations, took part in the battles of Jabal of Lebanon from the first moment "whether people wanted or did not want this to be made public." He said that everyone suffered martyrs and wounded and elements from the front were taken prisoner. He declared that "the Phalangist factional army is a hostile army. We fought it to confront one of the partners of the Israeli enemy in killing and murdering our people." He said that "our target in all cases is Palestine; Beirut was never our target."

He explained that democratic reform is an urgent and possible demand and can be implemented through democratic dialogue. He said that what prevents democratic dialogue among Palestinians with precision and clarity is Arab political interference.

Regarding the advice of Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] to leave Tripoli, Abu al-'Abbas said that Tripoli is not the end of the world, just as it is not its beginning. Taking into consideration that Abu 'Ammar is general leader of the Palestinian revolution forces, he has the full right to be anywhere at any time he considers suitable. He expressed hope that there will be no military confrontation between the Palestinian revolution and any other Arab side.

Libya Expels PLO Officials, Takes Other Measures

LD312341 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] The Libyan authorities continue their dirty conspiracy against the Palestinian people, their revolution, and their legitimate and sole representative, the PLO. Following the attack launched by members of Libyan intelligence on the PLO mission in the Libyan capital, Tripoli, the authorities took a further step. According to WAFA, the Libyan authorities yesterday ordered the PLO representatives and their families to leave Libya, threatening them with rifle butts.

The agency added, quoting a PLO spokesman, that the Libyan intelligence this week searched the PLO offices in Tripoli and Banghazi and placed the employees under house arrest. WAFA also reported that men of the intelligence service opened fire on members of the PLO mission in Banghazi, wounding seven of them. Furthermore, the agency confirmed that the Libyan authorities warned the employees of PLO ffices in Libya that their lives might be exposed to danger if they did not yield to the expulsion order.

Members of the Arab diplomatic corps accredited in Tripoli have protested these demagogic measures practiced by the Libyan authorities.

ALF Statement on Current Palestinian Differences

JN270732 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2044 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Oct (INA) — The Central Committee of the Arab Liberation Front [ALF] has affirmed that the dangers, plots, and battles now witnessed by the Arab homeland are only different facets of a single plan aimed at weakening and suppressing Arab revolutionary forces so that the Arab homeland will again become a target of monopoly, plunder, and military, political, and economic subservience. In a statement issued today at the end of its meetings, in which it discussed the front's situation and developments in the Palestinian and Arab spheres, the front's Central Committee said that the Arab nation's support for a strong Iraq is an urgent pan-Arab task so as to deter the Iranian enemy and make him give up his aggression and stop the war.

The front added that the release of Iraq's energies and the protection of its national soil and sovereignty is a basic condition for checking the onslaughgt against the unity of the Palestinian revolution and its independent national decisionmaking.

The Central Committee explained that preoccupying the PLO leadership with internal plots, which are directly backed by the Syrian and Libyan regimes, leads to facilitating settlement activity in the occupied Arab territories and the peddling of the autonomy conspiracy. The Central Committee pointed out that the serious escalation of the plots to split, destroy, or end the PLO's independent national decisionmaking at the hands of the Syrian and Libyan regimes and their ally, the Khomeyniite regime, is a link in a chain of plots to liquidate the fighting forces of the Arab revolutionary movement which rejects capitulation and surrender.

The Central Committee hailed the brave nationalist stand of the masses in the occupied Arab territory against the Zionist enemy. The committee expressed its pride in the Palestinian people's adherence to their revolution and leadership and their rejection and condemnation of the plots to contain and split the PLO. The committee highly appreciated the Palestinian people's adherence to their independent national decisionmaking.

The front Central Committee announced its abidance by the Palestine National Charter and the resolutions of the PNC which confirm that the PLO and its leadership is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. The committee also affirmed its abidance by the objectives of the return, the liberation, and self-determination for the Palestinian people; its belief in armed struggle as the basic means to achieve these objectives; and its rejection of the Zionist-Lebanese agreement, considering it a step along the Camp David line which detracts from Lebanon's sovereignty, threatens its Arabism, and puts restrictions on Lebanon's role in the Arab progressive movement.

'Arafat, Dissident Comment on Palestinian Issues

LD301417 Kuwait KUNA in English 1003 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Belgrade, Oct 30 (KUNA) — Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasir 'Arafat reiterated that Syria was besieging his forces in north Lebanon while the Palestinian breakaway leader Sa'id Musa [Muragha] described Damascus as "an ally." In separate interviews with the two rival Palestinian leaders, the mass circulation magazine *"Nin"* published here Sunday quoted 'Arafat in north Lebanon as saying that the Syrian-Libyan intervention in the Palestinian revolution's affairs is not the first and will not be the last. He added that his fighters are blocked by Syrian troops and Israeli and American fleets, and elaborated that three Palestinian ships includine one with volunteers were captured at sea.

'Arafat said that he is seriously considering the U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz's statements that they support Syrian policy toward the PLO, and stressed that they have declared that Damascus was "at present carrying out its promises." Syria was trying for the past ten years to impose its influence over the PLO, the organization's chairman said, noting that the Syrian president has recently resorted to force to realise that end. Describing such a development as "a crime and crisis," 'Arafat said, however, "Efforts are being exerted to improve relations with the Syrians." "If they attacked us we will fight to the finish," he emphasized.

The Palestinian chieftain affirmed that despite American, Israeli and certain Arab regimes' aggression "we will remain the important political and military factor in the Middle East." "We have proved that in Beirut last year," 'Arafat recalled and cited the negative effects within Israel following the heroic steadfastness of the Palestinian combatants in the Lebanese capital.

Commenting on the situation in Lebanon, 'Arafat said that an American-Israeli plot with the participation of a number of Arab regimes is underway to divide Lebanon into small cantons. The PLO leader appealed to the world, friends and Yugoslavia to extend a helping hand to the Palestinian organization which is currently "the victim of a conspiracy."

Leader of the dissident group within the Palestinian mainstream Fatah movement, Brig Sa'id Musa, countered 'Arafat's statements and described Syria as the only remaining confrontation front against Israel. "If we lose Syria, can we fight Israel from Algeria or Tunisia?" the opposition leader asked.

Questioned on Syrian conditions regarding Palestinian commando operations, the brigadier, better known as Abu Musa, explained that every country has internal regulations that should be respected, but he stressed that Damascus "will never ask us to foresake our rights or goals, and will never interfere in our affairs." He described Syria and Libya as allied countries "and we are pround of such an alliance."

The Palestinian resistance should coordinate its military affairs with Syria, Abu Musa said, adding "this does not mean receiving orders from Damascus."

Leader of the Fatah breakaways, whom 'Arafat described in his interview as "Syrian agents," accused the PLO chairman of overalling Palestinian legitimacy by his rapprochement with what he described as "Arab reactionary regimes such as Egypt and Jordan, and his refusal to similar relations with progressive Arab regimes such as Syria and Libya." Abu Musa added that 'Arafat has unilaterally accepted peace solutions for the Palestinian cause without consulting the (Fatah) movement.

On the confederate proposals with Jordan, Abu Musa described current political solutions as leaving no other option to the Palestinians but "to commit suicide." The breakaway leader said, however, "we accept peaceful settlements but refuse (?bargains) which give us nothing."

On the motives behind his movement, Brig. Abu Musa said "we want to determine the responsibility for evacuating Beirut and the political errors which harmed our revoiution in the past decade."

PFLP-GC Spokesman Warns Against 'Arafat Actions

JN311636 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1410 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus, 31 Oct (SANA) — Fadl Shururu, secretary of the PFLP-GC's Political Bureau and the official spokesman, has asserted that the Yasir 'Arafat-Khalil al-Wazir clique is trying to explode the security situation in Tripoli by its shelling of the Palestinian camps. In a statement today, Shururu said that the 'Arafat-Al-Wazir clique is trying to explode the security situation in the capital city of northern Lebanon and trying to peddle its aggressive intentions, taking advantage of the absence of former President Sulayman Franjiyah and former Prime Minister Rashid Karami, who are attending the National Dialogue Conference in Geneva.

The PFLP-GC's official spokesman stressed that Palestinian, Arab, and international circles are fully aware of 'Arafat's practices and aggressive methods. Shururu noted that 'Arafat follows his aggressive practices with complaints, clamor, and claims to give the impression that he is innocent and a victim. This was his method when he carried out the massacres against the PFLP-GC and the Lebanese Communist Party in Tripoli.

Concluding his statement, Shururu warned the 'Arafat-Al-Wazir clique against its aggressive acts, stressing that the revolutionary forces know how to punish those trying to assassinate the revolutionary will of our Palestinian people.

Sabri al-Banna Group on Jordanian Arrests

JN010635 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 1 Nov 83

[Text] The Palestine national liberation movement-Fatah — the Revolutionary Council [Sabri al-Banna group] — has announced that the Jordanian regime's authorities in Amman recently mounted a wide-scale arrest campaign against the movement's members and supporters. In a statement, the movement said that among those arrested is a group of Palestinian citizens who reside in occupied Palestine and who had been staying in Transjordan for brief periods. The movement added that the Amman authorities handed these persons over to the Zionist enemy authorities who are now subjecting them to torture in Israeli jails.

The statement said that the movement is revealing these practices to the Arab masses and liberation forces and to Jordanian national organizations and forces. The movement's organization in Jordan — an organization which is in cohesion with the broad national masses — will confront these practices with suitable methods.

PFLP, DFLP Issue Statement on Tripoli Fighting

NC271052 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Text] In Damascus the joint command of the PFLP and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine called for halting peripheral disputes among the members of the national Lebanese-Palestinian-Syrian alliance and for directing all resources and attention to the requirements of safeguarding the victories achieved by the mountain battle. In a statement issued at the end of its regualr meeting, the joint command stressed that the serious escalation of the imperialist onslaught calls for maximum vigilance and caution to safeguard the achievements of the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples.

The statement denounced any inter-Palestinian fighting whatever the causes or justifications. It called on all parties to stop any escalation of the fighting which might escalate the situation and expose the camps of our people in Al-Baddawi and Al-Barid to a new round of violence, destruction, and bloodshed.

The statement points to the joint command's concern to protect the rights of the Lebanese communists and national forces to regain their centers and headquarters and to exist and act openly in Tripoli in the political and military fields. The statement said this right must be regained by peaceful and political means to save Tripoli and its camps from further fighting and destruction.

UAE, Saudi Mediation in Sahara Dispute Reported

LD2121551 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1102 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] Rabat, 21 Oct (KUNA) — The UAE is mediating between Morocco and Algeria over the Sahara question, it was learned from Gulf diplomatic sources here today. The sources told KUNA that UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan is personally conducting this mediation. UAE Minister of Petroleum and Natural Resources Dr Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah recently delivered a number of messages from Shaykh Zayid to King Hassan II of Morocco and President Chadli Bendjedid of Algeria.

KUNA has learned that similar Saudi mediation efforts have been started to contain the crisis between the two countries following the failure of the African follow-up committee to set a date for a plebiscite in the Sahara. KUNA believes the purpose of the current mediation is to arrange a second meeting between King Hassan and President Bendjedid. Earlier Saudi mediation efforts succeeded in bringing about a meeting between the two leaders last February on the border between their two countries.

GULF AFFAIRS

YAR-Saudi Council Issues Joint Statement

GF301840 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text of joint statement issued by YAR-Saudi coordination council at the conclusion of meetings in Riyadh on 30 October]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the most gracious, the merciful. On the basis of the ties of friendship and brotherhood between the YAR and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and in the fixed conviction and profound faith in what cooperation between them offers of positive results that bolster the joint hopes and aspirations of both peoples, the Yemeni-Saudi joint coordination council convened under the chairmanship of Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, prime minister and member of the Standing Committee, and Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, defense and aviation minister, and inspector general in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in Riaydh on 23 and 24 Muharram 1404 Hegira, 29 and 30 October 1983. The talks between the two sides were dominated by the spirit of brotherhood, friendship, and mutual confidence.

The meetings were attended by the members of the coordination council from the Yemeni side, Brothers Lieutenant Colonel 'Abdallah al-Bashiri, chief of the general staff and member of the Standing Committee; 'Ali Lutfi ath-Thwar, foreign minister and member of the Standing Committee; Dr Muhammad al-'Adi, finance minister; Dr Fu'ad Sa'ib Muhammad, minister of development and head of the central body of planning; and Ahmad al-Muhanni, our ambassador in Saudi Arabia.

They were attended on the Saudi side by Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, interior minister; Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister; Muhammad Aba al-Khayl, minister of finance and national economy; Husayn Mansuri, minister of communications; 'Ali Ash-Sha'ir, information minister; and 'Ali al-Qusaybi, Saudi ambassador in San'a'.

The council reviewed the close relations between the two fraternal countries and expressed its full satisfaction over the coordination and cooperation that exist between them and that aim at bolstering ties between the two countries in all fields in order to achieve their joint hopes and goals. It also stressed the necessity of proceeding forward with all the effective and continuing coordination programs in all political, economic, information, and cultural fields to serve their goals in agreement with the fraternal links between their peoples who are linked with ties of religion, kinship, neighborhood, joint heritage, and unity of goal and destiny and to benefit both fraternal countries, the Arab and Islamic nations, and their fatal questions.

The two sides reviewed the situations in the region and stressed their determination to cooperate and coordinate in all fields that can preserve peace and security in the countries of the Arabian Peninsula and to work jointly in order to achieve honorable goals aimed at creating a good future for both countries and their fraternal peoples on the bases of belief in the tolerant Islamic faith and genuine Arab afiliation and at adopting a united stand against all overt and covert plots to undermine the security and stability of this region, no matter where the motives of these plots come from, whether they are Western or Eastern, and irrespective of the pretexts and justifications used, considering that the security of the countries in the peninsula is the responsibility of its countries in order to deter whoever is tempted to undermine the integrity of their soil security and independence or to impose any kind of hegemony or influence on their territories.

With the framework of their review of the situation in the Arab region and its developments, both sides stressed the necessity of continuing efforts and contacts in order to bolster Arab and Islamic solidarity, act in order to avoid whatever may impede the Arab march, and confront all the challenges and threats facing it at this critical stage of its history in a manner that will deploy all resources for the prosperity of the Arab peoples and in the service of their fatal questions and the main battle waged by the Arab and Islamic nations against the Zionist enemy which is threatening everyone and is seeking to impose its hegemony on all nations in the region.

Both sides denounced the policy of the continuing Zionist occupation of the Lebanese territories and other Arab territories. They appealed to the international community and all peace- and justice-loving powers to continue supporting the Arab peace plan and to support the Arab Palestinian people in their just and legitimate struggle in order to regain their usurped rights and establish their independent state under the leadership of their legitimate representative, the PLO, as well as to bring about the withdrawal of Israel from the occupied Arab territories.

The Yemeni side praised the positive and constructive role played by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the efforts it exerts in order to restore accord among all conflicting parties and sects in Lebanon, to restore peace and stability in all its parts, and to preserve its integrity, independence, and sovereignty.

Both sides expressed hope that the upcoming Lebanese National Dialogue Conference will result in putting an end to the agony and suffering in Lebanon and in achieving national accord.

The sides also discussed current international issues and their views on them were in full agreement.

The sides agreed that the council will hold its next session at the start of the next Hegira year, 1405, in the YAR.

PDRY-Omani Talks in Kuwait Postponed

GF311636 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] The technical committee for the PDRY-Omani border talks ended its second round of talks today. The minutes of the talks were signed at the guest palace in Kuwait.

The PDRY side was led by Lieutenant Colonel 'Abd al-Wasi' Sallal, deputy minister of interior, and the Omani side was led by Shaykh Muhammad 'Ali al-Qatbi, deputy minister of state and governor of Dhofar. The Kuwaiti delegation led by Rashid

'Atif al-'Aziz ar-Rashid, Kuwaiti foreign ministry under secretary, and the UAE delegation led by 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Jarwan, UAE foreign ministry under secretary, attended.

ANSA reports that during the second round of talks the PDRY delegation submitted seven memoranda and various documents that contain a number of UN resolutions and agreements that support the PDRY delegation's views on the border between the two countries.

The Omani delegation asked for a postponement of the meeting to study the documents presented by the PDRY delegation.

GCC's Bisharah on Iraq-Iran War, Gulf Situation

PM271600 London Ash-Sharq al-Awsat in Arabic 26 Oct 83 pp 1, 2

[Report on interview with GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah by As-Sirr Sayyid Ahmad in Riyadh — date not specified]

[Excerpts] GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah said that the six GCC member-states take the Iranian threats to close the Strait of Hormuz seriously, but in the meantime they are not acting emotionally in the face of these threats, nor are they beating the drums of war.

In an exclusive statement to *Ash-Sharq al-Awsat*, Bisharah said the GCC states are exerting diplomatic efforts with the various parties in order to end the Iraq-Iran war. Bisharah said: "The threats could become real if we do not make the necessary preparations. What I mean by preparations is not aggressive intentions or militaary moves. We are not beating the drums of war, but we believe that what cannot be resolved through dialogue today can be resolved by logic in the future."

Bisharah asserted that the Gulf states did not take any hasty or unreasonable steps and said: "The situation calls for self-restraint. We have concentrated our efforts on intensive and continuing diplomatic endeavors through the good offices mission to Tehran and Baghdad, which has shown the Gulf states' determination to resolve the dispute."

Bisharah affirmed that the GCC states support the mediation efforts by the Islamic countries, the nonaligned countries, and the United Nations, adding that "we believe that our efforts have contributed to containing the dispute and easing tension." He added: "The principle that the GCC leaders have laid down stresses that protection of the sovereignty of the GCC countries is the responsibility of these countries and not of volunteers or foreign forces. The maneuvers recently held in Abu Dhabi were a confirmation of the principle of self-reliance."

Bisharah denied reports that a fund financed by the Gulf states is to be set up in order to rebuild the fighting countries. He said: "There is not one modicum of truth in these reports. All that we do is to talk to both sides and try to convince them of the futility of fighting, which leads to greater tension and to interference by the superpowers."

He said that the Gulf states have a special commitment in the area. "We have a special responsibility; it is not a question of only moral obligations as it is in the case of others. For this reason we examine all the options and solutions to end the war." Bisharah denied that there are specific proposals to resolve the crisis, saying that "so far none of the various mediations has succeeded for one single reason, namely, the lack of serious desire to negotiate in order to reach a settlement."

Bisharah declined to specify the party rejecting negotiations but stressed that "what we are doing is to try every way possible to persuade the combatant parties to accept our viewpoint and not to despair."

Bisharah denied that there is a Gulf offer to give financial aid to Syria in return for reopening the Iraqi oil pipeline crossing the Syrian territory. He said: "What we are doing is to exert all our efforts with the parties concerned in order to put an end to the state of disruption."

He also strongly denied reports about a "Gulf rapid deployment force," adding: "It can be said that the Gulf forces that took part in the recent maneuvers are a token of military coordination in order to show the world that any aggression against any of the six Gulf states will be regarded as an aggression against all the GCC states."

Bisharah stressed that the GCC is basically a political framework for the achievement of Gulf unity in all fields, that is, the achievement of economic integration, political coordination, and military cooperation. He added: "In the political field we have excellent coordination, and in the military field cooperation is continuing in accordance with the principle of self-reliance."

Bisharah announced that the Gulf states are in the process of creating a military industry in the GCC states, adding that "the preliminary survey for the establishment of such industry is due to begin next year."

Regarding the agenda of the fourth GCC summit due to be held in Qatar in early November, he said: "The summit will discuss the situation in the Gulf and will review GCC activities regarding the implementation of the GCC agreement as well as the general situation in the Arab world."

Bisharah asserted that the GCC states' relations with the big powers are free of complexes or fears. He said: "The party our interests dictate we deal with...we will deal with. We are not under the protection of any party." He added: "In the GCC we follow a confederal system. It is a system that allows all the member-states to retain their own experiments. So far we have succeeded in achieving harmony between these experiments in the interest of our common action."

KUWAIT

Prime Minister Issues Statement on Geneva Talks

LD311513 Kuwait KUNA in English 1402 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 31 (KUNA) — Kuwait Monday hoped the

Lebanese reconciliation talks due to open this evening in Geneva would come up with a settlement that would salvage the Lebanese people from internal strife that has torn their country for the past eight years. H.H. Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah said in a statement: "We in Kuwait wish the Lebanese conferences all success and are confident the Lebanese brothers will live up to their responsibilities and are fully aware of the fateful dimensions of their conference."

Shaykh Sa'd added the Arab nation and the whole world are looking forward to a national reconciliation formula in Lebanon so as to preserve that Arab country's sovereignty and independence. He, however, warned the collapse of the talks would only be in the interest of "the Zionist enemy" and foes of the Arab nation.

Meanwhile, State Minister for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn also voiced hope that the Geneva conference would restore peace and prosperity to Lebanon and lead to the liberation of Lebanese territories from Israeli occupation. The Minister, in a statement to KUNA, added that Kuwait had appealed to all Lebanese parties to place interests of Arab Lebanon above all other considerations. Kuwait, he said, hoped that the Lebanese leaders would agree on a settlement through which Lebanon will no longer need the presence on its territories of foreign troops to keep peace.

PDRY

Libya's Al-'Ubaydi Makes Visit 29-31 Oct

GF291735 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] Brother 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, Libyan secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison, arrived in Aden this evening on a visit to our country during which he will discuss with Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs, relations between the two fraternal countries and issues of mutual concern.

In a statement to ANA, Al-'Ubaydi said that during this visit he will discuss with Brother ad-Dali the latest Arab and international developments. He said that his visit comes in the shadow of [word indistinct] circumstances for any sincere Arab, especially after the deterioration of situation in Lebanon and the threats to the Palestinians issued by U.S. imperialism and Zionism. He said: For these reasons, we have to negotiate in such circumstances.

He condemned the hostile policy of U.S. imperialism represented by its invasion of Grenada. He said that the international situation will be discussed during this visit.

He was received on arrival by Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs; Ahmad Salah Hajib, PDRY ambassador in Libya; Salim Muhammad Husayn, secretary of the Libyan People's Bureau in Aden; and a number of the brother officials at the Foreign Ministry.

Talks Begin 30 October

GF302000 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] The first session of talks between the delegation of our country headed by Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs, and the Libyan side headed by Brother 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison, began at the Foreign Ministry this morning. During their talks the two sides reviewed the Arab situation, especially the Palestinian issue and situation in Lebanon. They also reviewed threats by the United States to Lebanon's independence and sovereignty. The two sides discussed the dangers resulting from the Zionist-imperialist alliance against our Arab countries and relations between the two fraternal countries.

The two sides will continue their talks tomorrow morning.

Foreign Secretary Departs

GF311438 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Libyan Secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi left Aden today following a visit to the PDRY during which he held talks with 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, YSP Central Committee member and foreign minister, on the Arab situation and particularly the Palestinian question and the situation in Lebanon. The talks also dealt with the threats posed by the U.S. intervention in Lebanon and the imperialist U.S. alliance against the Arab peoples.

In a predeparture statement to ANA, Brother al-'Ubaydi expressed satisfaction with the results of his talks, which he said were successful. He said that the talks dealt with relations between the two fraternal countries.

Al-'Ubaydi was seen off at the airport by 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, YSP Central Committee member and foreign minister; Muhammad 'Ali 'Inayah, deputy foreign minister; Ahmad Salah Hajib, PDRY ambassador to Libya; Salim Muhammad Husayn, secretary of the Libyan Arab Brotherhood Bureau in Aden; and Foreign Ministry officials.

SAUDI ARABIA

King: Geneva Might Be Lebanon's Last Chance

LD010559 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2110 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 31 Oct (SPA) — His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz chaired the meeting of the Council of Ministers this evening. His excellency the minister of information, 'Ali ash-Sha'ir, said in a statement to SPA after the meeting that after a quick review of events at the Arab level and important events at the international level in the last few days, his majesty informed the council of the results of the second stage of contacts with brother Arab officials within the context of the common interest concerning the scheduled Arab summit in Riyadh and that further consultations in this regard are awaited.

On the topic of the hour, his majesty said that the first session of the Lebanese national conference, which includes members of the dialogue committee in accordance with the recent cease-fire agreement in Lebanon, is beginning its work in Geneva with the hope of reaching a formula for comprehensive and complete national reconciliation. His majesty then said that the Kingdom — which has followed all the stages of the painful Lebanese conflicts since their start and which has contributed with all its capabilities and efforts over the last 8 years to obtain a cease-fire, halt the blood-letting, achieve peace, and consecrate the unity of Lebanese territory, so as to preserve the lives of the Lebanese people — appeals to the leaders who are now gathering at these fateful and historic hours on which the construction of the new Lebanon depends, to fulfill the trust of the Lebanese people and the aspirations of the Arab nation, to be careful in the exercise of their responsibilities, and to deal with the existing differences with wisdom, vision, and a thorough examination of the issues on the agenda. In particular, these leaders should all understand that this is their chance. It is a chance that has been long awaited and might not be repeated if, God forbid, they allow it to be lost. They would then be judged by history in view of the disasters and blood-letting that Lebanon has experienced.

Our hope is great that the meetings in Geneva will bring about positive results to achieve coexistence among the Lebanese through precise control of balance among the sects and by allowing equal opportunities for all its sons in lasting peace and comprehensive stability. His majesty expressed the Kingdom's most sincere wishes that the conference will be successful in achieving the hoped-for results in the interest of sister Lebanon.

Mas'ud Comments on Geneva Talks on Lebanon

LD0010024 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] His excellency the minister of state [for foreign affairs] and member of the Council of Ministers, Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud, has confirmed that the Kingdom will spare no effort to bring about reconciliation among the Lebanese sides so that the Lebanese National Dialogue Conference, which opened earlier today in Geneva, could achieve the results for which it is being held.

In a statement to JANA, his excellency said that during his meetings with a number of Lebanese officials taking part in the conference, he extended the greetings of His Majesty King Fahd and his hope and firm desire for the Lebanese brothers to end the conference in agreement and united, in the interest of the security and stability of sister Lebanon.

His excellency pointed out that the Kingdom is participating in the conference as an observer, together with sister Syria, at the invitation of the Lebanese Government, hoping to see a new dawn of agreement among the Lebanese brothers in the interest of Lebanon, its continuation, security, and the unity of its ranks. He described the opening speech by President Amin al-Jumayyil as a sincere desire to achieve the objective for which the conference was convened.

King Fahd Interview at University Reported

LD261145 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0330 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Riyadh, 25 Oct (SPA) — His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz visited the King 'Abd al-'Aziz University in Jidda yesterday evening and replied to questions put to him by tutors, students, and others:

[Question] The Arab artificial satellite has aroused world and regional interest in light of the great effects it has concerning the nature of the region. What preparations have been made to benefit from it and what are the expected effects it will have?

[King Fahd] The brothers know the developments concerning the artificial satellite and what has already been published about it. It is a joint Arab project. It aims at the creation of a network of artificial satellites to develop communications and full television coverage of the Arab homeland, which has an area of 13 million square km and a population of approximately 175 million people. The satellite will be useful in conveniently relaying any useful constructive material from any Arab country, making it possible for citizens to see them clearly without an antenna.

Undoubtedly, the Arab artificial satellite is a major objective in regard to both external telecommunications and television transmission. As is known, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia plays host to the headquarters of the Arab artificial satellite. The satellite's administrative board is also here in Saudi Arabia. The Kingdom's contribution to the projects amounts to $60 million, representing 30 percent of the overall cost.

The Ministry of Posts, Telephones, and Telegraph is now working on the construction of a building for the project. We hope the satellite will be put to good use because it will enable Saudi television to be seen in all the Arab countries.

We hope the television programs will be compatible with our Islamic religion. The Arab artificial satellite must be exploited usefully in the religious field, which is the main field, besides the medical, scientific, agricultural, and industrial fields. There are programs whose transmission via the satellite will be useful and constructive. They help to boost ethics and raise them to the level desired by all the Arab countries.

[Question] Does not Your Majesty feel that the King 'Abd al-'Aziz University should be represented on the Supreme Pilgrimage Committee? This will make it possible to benefit directly from its scientific capabilities.

[King Fahd] The university has a leading role in matters of pilgrimage, and its teaching staff is making major efforts. It was decided recently to transfer these efforts to the Umm al-Qura University, because it is closer to Mecca and Muna, so that the efforts would be fully utilized. There is no difference between the two universities. In this regard, I wish to convey my personal thanks to all those honorable teachers at the King 'Abd al-'Aziz University who have exerted efforts to bring the idea to fruition.

[Question] This year's budget has been affected by the drop in oil production, despite the fact that this took place only a few months before the publication of the budget. What will the budget be this year if the previous production rate had continued?

[King Fahd] A drop has undoubtedly taken place in production for numerous reasons. In my opinion, the drop was due to the fact that the oil-producing countries wanted to make a quick gain. The Kingdom's attitude in this regard is well-known. There are two types of consumer: First, there are the strong ones, and then there are those whose conditions are known only to God. The strong ones include America and the European countries. These countries told their people that there are some who want to exploit them and take their money, so they have to heed the advice given to them by their government. These people were mature enough and farsighted enough to heed what their government and experts say. They asked them to cut down their domestic consumption and to reduce the speed of their cars. The people responded extremely well. This made those countries which used to import 10,000 tons, for example, import only 5,000 tons. This placed great amounts of oil in the markets. Furthermore, it is a known fact that many Western countries have very large stocks of oil. A few years ago the OPEC countries' oil production amounted to about 33 million barrels per day. Their production now has dropped to 17 million barrels.

The reason for the fall in production to this level is thus due the peoples' response to their government and to their reduction of consumption. Instead of traveling by car for 2 hours, they traveled for 1 hour; instead of driving at 100 kilometers an hour, they traveled at 60 kilometers; instead of lighting 10 lamps, they lit only one.

As an oil-producing country, we must realize that this commodity is vital for the world, both the developed world and the world which we need and which needs us such as the countries of Asia and Africa.

I have met with many of the leaders of these countries who came to the Kingdom on a visit or for pilgramage and who reviewed their problems with us. In fact, they are right. They say that their countries have limited resouces. They allocate, for example, $35 million for purchasing oil. But suddenly, they found that the OPEC countries or other countries from which they import oil raised their prices, for example, from $30 to $40. Where will these countries find the extra money needed?

Increasing the price of oil was not studied carefully and constructively from the start. Hence there was a race and outbidding. For example, when the market showed that it could absorb a bigher price, some tried to exploit this by imposing a higher price. Those in need had to buy. This caused a reaction in the big consumer countries as well as in the countries whose friendship we want because they are countries with a need. OPEC was thus forced to compensate the poor countries from an OPEC fund.

The question of oil is a sensitive one. This is not because we are an oil-producing country, but because the oil market must be stable. This has been the view of the Kingdom since the start of the debates at the Qatar conference 7 years ago. The Kingdom's view in this respect is well-known: Raising the price of oil all at once does not serve the interests of the oil-producing countries and harms the basic interests of the people — whether in Europe, Asia, or Africa. This was the opinion of the experts who saw things for themselves.

The West wants to hold us responsible for the rise in the oil prices since the start of this 15 years ago. But the fact of the matter is that we are not the cause; they are. This is because, for example, we used to pay 20 rials for a pen, but suddenly they raised its price to 40 rials. As an oil-producing country, we had to raise our prices so that we could buy goods from Europe and the United States. If their prices had been stable, we would not have had to raise our oil prices.

As an oil-producing country, we consider it essential that prices be stable and the price of oil remain at a certain level for 2-3 years. This will lead to reassurance and confidence, and the needy world will have a chance to breath. The strong world can endure, however. But playing with oil prices might recoil on the oil-producing countries in the end.

The Saudi Kingdom used to produce 11 million barrels a day, but this has dropped for the same reasons. According to the experts, if we were to pursue a moderate and reasonable plan, these countries' industries would grow bigger and their consumption would increase and demand for oil would increase. But it does not serve any interest to raise prices. Every country with a limited income wants to feel reassured that it has a respite of 3 years during which it can build a factory, construct a road, or build a hospital. Fortunately, oil prices have remained steady so far.

There is yet another question: selling oil at a price lower than that agreed. It has been said that some countries agreed to fix their official price at $28, yet they sold at a price of $24 or $25. Naturally, the consumer always looks for the cheaper price. The Kingdom refuses to enter into a race of this kind because it will be at the expense of the oil-producing peoples.

Our oil deposits are not small and can last for 100 years. We must realize that the intellectually and industrially advanced countries have been working hard to find an alternative to oil and have been spending billions on this. Once they find the alternative — be it through the atom or anything else — they will not need the oil even at dollars less.

Hence, it is in our interest as an oil-producing country to reach an understanding with the major industrial powers in a cordial manner and to reassure them that the price of oil will remain fixed for a specific period of time such as 2-3 years. I do not say that prices should not be raised, but that this should be based on changes in the world during 2-3 years. This is because this commodity is not one of the simple commodities with which man can toy. Certainly playing with it will have repercussions on mankind. The Kingdom is fully anxious to remain within the OPEC framework, because it is in its interest that OPEC should remain strong, solid, and coherent.

[Question] The use of solar energy in an entire Saudi village was one of the most important events of the past week. Does concentration of this mean progress toward an alternative source of

energy? What plans does the Kingdom have for use of nuclear energy as an alternative source of energy in the future?

[King Fahd] I believe that the step taken by the Kingdom in this field is a practical and constructive one. Such matters are still at the beginning stage. Thank God, we have abundance of sun. Use of solar energy will depend on the extent of success we have achieved so far. If we achieve positive, practical results, we should expand; if theh result the opposite, then naturally there would be no use in expanding.

[Question] There was a tangible drop in the general oil revenue last year. Would Your Majesty tell us about the effect this drop has had on the next 5-year development plan and on the standard of living of the Saudi citizen, taking into consideration the annually increasing world inflation?

[King Fahd] Fortunately, the minister of planning is here. As I understand it, the drop that has taken place will not have a great effect on the balance in Saudi Arabia. I believe that the questioner may like to know that most of the development projects or projects with a deadline have funds allocated for them in the budget, say 100 billion units. This sum is not a continuing one, but has an end. Once these projects reach a specific limit, we can start on other projects. Thus, if we see that this year's budget is less than the last one and is supplemented by a specific sum from the reserve or elsewhere, that would be a result of the Saudi Kingdom's commitment to some projects that will be fulfilled completely and undiminished.

The plan will surely be based on estimated oil production. We must maintain the progress and prosperity the Kingdom has achieved, as well as the current levels it has attained. However, I believe that the questioner and the citizens agree with me that when conditions beyond the control of the officials in Saudi Arabia occur, it is our duty as citizens to look for ways that would enable us to maintain our level. It is not that one always thinks of remaining on one level. For example, a catastrophe from God could hit a farm. I wish to assure the questioner that so far there is nothing to indicate that there is a crucial state. Saudi Arabia should not go back. Godwilling, it is hoped that it will continue the march forward for the good of the homeland.

[Question] Your Majesty, at the petroleum university you were asked about the regulations and measures that restrict a member of the teaching body in making scientific contact with specialized seminars held outside the Kingdom. You replied that this represented a beginning for laying down a general arrangement aimed at giving advice on how a member of the teaching body can benefit from these seiminars and conferences and to help him to participate in them in a positive way. What has been done regarding the drawing up a system that gives Saudi professors the opportunity to have scientific contact with specialized conferences and seiminars without having to adhere to the measures that are currently followed?

[King Fahd] Naturally this concerns our professors. They are an object of pride. We are proud of them because of the learning, knowledge, and perception bestowed on them by God. We do not object at all to a Saudi professor's participating in any scientific seminars. However, if he wanted to take part in a scientific conference, it would be helpful if he were to ask the officials and the specialists in his homeland who could provide him with useful and constructive information to assist him in his task. There are a number of professors who attended and participated in international seminars. Nevertheless, God willing, there will be a system that defines the kind of participation in the interest of the homeland and the participant.

[Question] There is question, Your Majesty, about opening universities in various regions, particularly in those areas where there are no universities. Why not plan and set up technical institutes in a way that is in harmony with the area's nature?

[King Fahd] The principle of opening universities may be one of the things one would like to apply. Building universities everywhere may contribute to the upsurge of the country. I do not blame the questioner; he may be coming from an area where there are no universities. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is the country of every compatriot. It is not strange that a citizen who comes from the western region studies in the eastern region and vice versa. Building universities is a matter that carries very big responsibilities, the most important of which is providing the teaching staff — that is more important than erecting the building.

According to my thinking, our seven universities have not filled their needs of students. It is better that matters be taken gradually. Building universities in remote areas is one of the subjects the state is trying to realize, but not until completing the basic conditions: finding someone among the citizens who can carry out responsibilities easily. The idea of building technical institutes is also one of the things we are aiming for. We hope that these institutes become widespread in towns and villages so that citizens can attend and graduate and find a useful and constructive position. We shall work for achieving this, God willing.

[Question] Following the reduction in Saudi income as a result of the current oil situation, it has been said that the Saudi economy has retreated a lot and that much of the state support for vital services and basic commodities would stop. Can we learn the truth about this?

[King Fahd] Regrettably, some of the businessmen who have commodities subsidized by the state are trying to circulate such rumors. The minister of trade very recently explained that the state would continue to follow the course it had been following with regard to food subsidies that are beneficial to the citizen and with regard cattle and farmers. God willing, there will be no change, and we pray to God that there will not be a need for such a change.

[Question] Your Majesty, following the efforts you have exerted to stop the bleeding in the Arab homeland, Lebanon, which were reported by international information media with appreciation for Your Majesty's role in this respect, does Your Majesty believe that the national dialogue that began a few days ago between the conflicting parties will lead to the realization of Lebanese national unity and to the restoration of security in Lebanon?

[King Fahd] It is common knowledge that Saudi Arabia has exerted all possible efforts with our brothers in Syria. I cannot but thank the Syrian president, because he also made an effort. Much has been achieved through what has been agreed on and has been made public through information media by the delegates of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Syria. All that was achieved after the approval of Lebanon, of the Lebanese president, and of the conflicting parties in Lebanon. As far as I know, until now, everything is progressing in a straight line.

There is a question of where to convene the conference. It has been suggested that the conference be held in Lebanon or in some other place. It has been suggested that it be held in Jidda, and we in Saudi Arabia are prepared to play host for it if the parties concerned agree, but we will not persist on an issue that is the concern of others.

We hope that the events that took place yesterday in Lebanon will not affect such a conference; they are in fact painful events that should not have happened because they benefit no one and they pose great danger to us as Arabs. We all know the number of those American and French who were killed. There is no doubt that this is an act which is not beneficial to Lebanon itself. It could be that it was meant to hinder the good efforts in Lebanon. But we hope that the great powers will realize that such matters represent only those who carry them out personally or those who prompted them to do it.

Concern for what happened prompted the French president to visit Lebanon today; this is an indication of the grave importance of the matter. We know what has been said in the United States and what has been broadcast about the American President's meetings with leaders and officials. This is an international concern. Many of the Arab ambassadors in Washington, in statements to U.S. television, have condemned this act. At the top of the list were the Syrian and Saudi ambassadors.

What has happened is not a constructive action and it can complicate matters. But the hope is, God willing, that the situation will take its normal course so that accords among the Lebanese leaders can be established.

It is only natural that we are saddened by what we hear daily about the renewal of the fighting between the Lebanese themselves, whether they are incited by others or not. I believe that there is no excuse for anyone to say: I did not do that but was pushed into doing it by others. Lebanon is a country where stability must be established, because in Lebanon there are various groups and factions which have agreed on a certain matter. [sentence as received] Saudi Arabia made efforts at a time when many countries in the world said that such efforts would not be fruitful, but those efforts were successful and the road was opened for those who wanted stability either to halt or reach their destination. This is a matter which belongs to the Lebanese themselves. Therefore, we hope that yesterday's events will not affect the course of events with regard to ending the Lebanese problem.

[Question] The GCC member-states recently carried out joint maneuvers to establish their capability and their determination to ensure their safety without resorting to foreign powers. A few days ago the fleets of the superpowers sailed towards the Gulf as a precaution against any future development. Is that regarded as an interference by these powers in the defense policy of the Council, and what is the Council's attitude toward this measure?

[King Fahd] The GCC announced this and approved it at the meeting held in Bahrain; it is not directed toward anybody. There is no doubt that it is in the interest of the Arabs and the Gulf states to have coordination among them with regard to their land, air, and naval forces. We do not want to rely on anyone, except on God and ourselves.

As for the fleets sailing the oceans of the world, we as countries with limited military potential and limited resources must not be a party in the conflict but must stay remote from any problems among the superpowers so that we will not be the victims.

As for the Gulf states, their agreements or gatherings are not directed against anybody; on the contrary, they demonstrate faith in God and self-confidence since the Gulf states have managed to establish something that can be used with regard to the Arab and international framework of the Gulf. There is great hope that the Council will attain a state which will unify the viewpoints and the common interests.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia announced allocations of shares in Sabic for the Gulf countries to participate in if they wish, and this is an initiatives by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to create some sort of a financial bond, as it is known internationally that financial bonds among states are stronger than political and social ones, because capital, if it comes together, creates strong links among nations, which all then rally to defend their capital. And I am one of those who prefer to see a factory sign reading Gulf Countries Factory in Jidda and see written on a factory that it is in Kuwait, in the UAE, in Qatar, and in any other place, and see joint national capital from all the states of the Gulf, not from the governments, but from the citizens. These financial links always consolidate the ties among the citizens of the Gulf and give them an impetus, and I call on the citizens.... Luckily, the citizen in Saudi Arabia has trust — thank God — in his government. Should shares come onto the market, he will not hesitate to buy them as there is no doubt that it is very useful to have economic links among the Gulf countries.

[Question] Everyone is aware of the Kingdom's efforts to mend the rift in the Arab and Islamic nations. An example of this is the Kingdom's success in stopping the bloodshed among the brothers in Lebanon. Your Majesty is aware that the war between Iran and Iraq is exhausting the resources of two Muslim countries. Does Your Majesty see any suitable way to hasten an end to this war, and what is the role which the Kingdom is playing in resolving this conflict between these two countries?

[King Fahd] There is no doubt that the continuation of the war between Iran and Iraq is not in the interest of the Muslim and Arab countries, so the Kingdom will not hesitate in exerting efforts in both countries in order to end the war. It is common knowledge that the Islamic Conference peace committee has made constructive and practical proposals and has visited both Iran and Iraq. These efforts continue. Many countries in the world and the UN secretary general have also intervened in this matter.

We regret that the war continues and especially in the last 3 days. We do not want this war to continue, because ultimately the losses will be sustained by Islam, the Muslims, the Arabs, and their neighboring country, Iran. We hope and we wish that God will inspire all to end the fighting and to embark on reaching an understanding. According to my knowledge, Iraq has demonstrated a sincere desire to end the war and to establish a state of peace and stability. Iraq has adopted this attitude not out of weakness,but because it does not want bloodshed. The war has entered its fourth year and its outcome is bound to be a loss to both countries. We hope that the Kingdom's efforts and the effort by others to stop the bloodshed and end the war will succeed.

[Question] Will Iran's threats to close the Strait of Hormuz have an effect on our oil exports?

[King Fahd] There is no doubt that this threat is regrettable and painful. We do not want a state like Iran to use such an issue to harm the countries of the world, since it is known that the oil production goes through the Strait of Hormuz to Asia, Africa, and the whole world. Its [word indistinct] is not confined to Iraq but it concerns all the Gulf countries, the big industrial countries, and the friendly countries in Asia and Africa and even the Eastern countries. This matter is very great, and I do not believe that it depends on the opinion of only the Gulf countries. The fear is that the great powers would intervene in it and that the consequences will be a situation which is not desirable or wanted. Therefore, I hope that Iran would not think of closing the Gulf with the aim of harming Iraq, since this would do more harm to countries friendly to Iran and maybe to the industrial countries that need the oil and that would find themselves forced to take measures which we do not want to take place in our region and near our shores in any circumstances.

[Question] King Sa'ud University and King 'Abd al-'Aziz University are two universities that offer almost all the specializations. There are other universities which offer limited specializations despite the fact that their financial resources are large. Does not Your Majesty believe that making these universities offer wider specializations would help to ease the pressure which is currently experienced in the the two universities of King Sa'ud and King 'Abd al-'Aziz?

[King Fahd] This will give me great pleasure. The Higher Education Council will be convened and such matters will be discussed. There is no doubt that equipping universities in a way that makes them offer all the specializations is something that is needed so that all universities will be equal. This is better, and the matter will be included on the agenda of the Higher Education Council, God willing.

[Question] Is there a new university system to be released, and what has has been done concerning it?

[King Fahd] This matter has actually been studied. I personally studied it, because the benefit might be very small from university councils. The views of the professors and the students will be taken into account with regard to what they think is suitable for the purpose and so that the current red tape can be eliminated.

[Question] Your Majesty, the city of Jidda has reached the high status it now enjoys because of your continuous support. The girls of this city look forward to a noble and generous royal gesture concerning the opening of a public library for women — a library that has all the reference material and that houses all their needs in reading, learning, and research. Your Majesty, the university's library is crowded with men.

[King Fahd] The girls are right. I take their side. We will notify the quarters concerned to construct a library especially for ladies so that any woman who likes to read may have a library which contains all useful books.

[Question] Soon, you will present prizes to three pioneers of Saudi literature. Will this be followed by a similar gesture toward the pioneers of science in all specialist fields?

[King Fahd] This is natural. And it is not restricted to a particular science or any part of it. It gives me pleasure to see that this is a beginning which should be applied to the other fields of science.

[Question] Despite the pressure of work, do you, Your Majesty, find time to enjoy your favorite hobby and can we learn something about it?

[King Fahd] I used to like to go into the desert and enjoy its air. My favorite sports were walking, swimming, and horse riding. Now, I have no time for any kind of sports except on Thursdays as often as psosible. Our Arab and international conditions make it imperative on one to follow events, which we hope will end favorably.

[Question] The students of the King 'Abd al-'Aziz University are hard pressed as a result of the great demands on this university; there is a great shortage of teachers as well as shortages in the scientific laboratories and in the classrooms. We beg Your Majesty to give orders to whomever you think appropriate to make these things available.

[King Fahd] I would like to say to the dean of the university and to its teachers and students that I will pay close attention to the question of fulfilling the needs of the university with whatever befits its status.

His exalted majesty explained at the end of the dialogue that the industrial development fund had provided loans amounting to 47.4 billion riyals to factories and electricity companies. These loans were interest free. The agricultural bank gave loans of 15.5 billion riyals and the property development fund gave about 257,000 loans totalling 60 billion riyals. The general investment fund provided loans totalling 56 billion riyals to the SABC and Petromin factories. This is what was given up to the end of 1982.

And all of it for the benefit of the nation.

[Fahd, continuing] The figures speak for themselves and the work speaks for itself. Now we will endeavor to acquaint the outside world with our achievements and this is in reply to what is being written against the Kingdom. These figures speak quite clearly for themselves. As for the media — and this includes the press — it is read in all parts of the world and it is quoted by world radios. This indicates that the Saudi press and Saudi homeland have some weight.

It is imperative that our media reach the outside world because a wrong idea might be received about us, though admittedly we are not perfect. Mistakes do occur and there are those who exaggerate and who benefit. But we will follow these matters and we will give each man who follows the right path his full due and, as for the one who follows crooked ways, we will put an end to these ways. The one in high position and the one in low position are both equal in the eyes of right and justice. We do not contribute to our advancement by liking a person by way of justice and equality. It is fortunate that we follow a straightforward path and we do not wish for anything but the citizen's well-being and that he should earn his living honestly, though not at the expense of others or by exploiting certain circumstances.

I do not wish to talk about the system of the provinces or the system of the consultative council or the basic system of governing; I want it to be a surprise. You can rest assured that it will emerge in its proper and constructive framework. We will find that dozens or hundreds of the citizens will be participating in the building of the homeland and some matters will be defined and that there is no use shedding light on them at present. Every citizen will find an opportunity ready for him and no one will be able to stay in a job for a specific period unless he has shown competence. We want to benefit from the people who base themselves on the Islamic faith. Your government and the officials in it try day and night to reach the level of a country which enjoys an upright and moderate standard of living. I pray God for guidance along the right path. I am no more than a part of you and you are a part of me. I asked Brother Ali in Mina officially not to say: your majesty. I said to him that the majesty is for God Almighty. I am honored if you address me as: the servant of the two holy mosques. I would prefer that to your majesty. Servant of the two holy mosques is an object of pride. The title king or amir does notmake us greater. The good person forces hearts to like him and the bad one is of no use. If one is useful and constructive, the citizens lend him support.

I believe in one thing after my belief in Almighty God, and that is that a broad popular base should be the starting point and that the goal should be for the Saudi citizen to find himself in a favorable position. I cannot say that the position of the Saudi citizen is exemplary but I say that he will shortly find himself in a favorable position in many respects such as housing, work, and opportunities, whether in government or other fields. If we provide the citizen with clean water, roads,electricity, telephones, hospitals, and the opportunity to work in agriculture or commerce or any other field, this is our duty toward the citizen as officials, before God, and before him. One of the most important aspects of my personality is my love of listening to the opinion of others and of consulting in small or large matters,whether one is an official in the government or other (?work). And this is because this is the way of the believer. If one claims to be perfect at any time, this means that one is not perfect. It is well known that consultation is the goal of the believer and one should seek wise advice which is committed and constructive. Criticism should be accompanied by solutions. We like to listen to the views and advice of citizens provided they have a solution, and this helps. It is no use criticizing one person or a government quarter purely for the sake of criticising.

Afterwards, his majesty expressed his thanks to those present and his pleasure at attending such meetings. He hoped that such meetings will continue from time to time. He saluted the educationists who contributed and took part and they include Shaykh 'Abd al-Wahhab 'Abd al-Wasi' and many others who participated in building this great and lofty edifice with which we have reached the highest levels. At the end of the meeting the acting director of the university, Dr Muhammad 'Ali Habash, presented the emblem of the university to his majesty the king. His majesty left the university headquarters and was given a great send-off.

YAR

Libyan Foreign Liaison Secretary Arrives

GF311818 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Libyan Foreign Liaison Secretary 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi arrived in San'a' today on a visit to the YAR, during which he will hold talks with officials on the recent developments of the situation on the Arab arena and international issues of mutual interest.

In a statement to SABA' NEWS AGENCY upon his arrival, Mr al-'Ubaydi said he carries a verbal message from Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Libyan Revolution, to Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, secretary general of the General People's Congress, on bilateral relations and current Arab issues, pointing out that during his visit he will discuss preparations for the upcoming Arab summit conference which will be held in Riyadh.

He was welcomed at the airport by 'Ali Lutfi ath-Thawr, foreign minister and member of the standing committee; a number of officials; and the secretary of the Libyan People's Bureau in San'a'.

Talks With Foreign Secretary

GF010632 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Official talks between the YAR side led by 'Ali Lutfi ath-Thawr, minister of foreign affairs and member of the Standing Committee, and the Libyan side led by 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, visiting Libyan foreign liaison secretary, began at the Foreign Ministry today. The talks dealt with relations between the two fraternal countries and means of expanding them and the current Arab situation in view of developments in the region.

President Receives Saudi King's Message

GF311820 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic commander in chief of the Armed Forces and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received in his office today Saudi Charge d'Affaires in San'a' Mahmud (?Badawi), who delivered a written message from His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia. SABA' NEWS AGENCY has learned that the message deals with bilateral relations.

Official Receives Soviet Justice Minister

GF280446 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Text] Ahmad Luqman, minister of state, secretary general of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, and chairman of the Yemeni Peace and Solidarity Council, talked with Soviet Justice Minister Vladimir Terebilov, who is currently visiting the Republic, leading a delegation of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Asian and African Peoples.

During a meeting, the views on current cooperation between the YAR Peace and Solidarity Council and the Soviet Solidarity Committee and the possibility of expanding cooperation were discussed. The two sides also discussed the current situation on the Arab arena and affirmed solidarity with the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Arab Palestinian people.

YAR, Soviet Solidarity Committees Meet

GF010715 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] A meeting was held today between delegations from the Yemeni Peace and Solidarity Council and the Soviet Committee for Solidarity With Asian and African Countries. The Yemeni side was led by Brother Ahmad al-Iryani, Foreign Affairs Ministry under secretary and assistant secretary general of the Yemeni Peace and Solidarity Council. The Soviet side was led by Soviet Justice Minister Vladimir Terebilov, who is currently visiting the republic. During the meeting they discussed means of developing relations between the Yemeni Peace and Solidarity Council and the Soviet council of solidarity. The two sides also exchanged views on Arab and international issues.

INA: 'Ali on Iraq-Iran War, Arab Solidarity

JN280912 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0818 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Oct (INA) — Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has stated that Iran's military option to end the war will not result in any Iranian military or political gains but in further bloodshed and ruin. He said Iran is called on now to search for an alternative means to end the war through peaceful negotiations, now that its military option has failed. In a statement to the Baghdad newspaper *Al-Jumhuriyah* published here today, the Egyptian official who had been on a 2-day visit to Baghdad said that the message he conveyed to President Saddam Husayn from President Mubarak dealt with the Iraqi-Iranian war developments and the escalation and effect of the serious Lebanese situation on current Arab developments.

On the Iraqi-Iranian war, 'Ali said: We are completely reassured about Iraq's steadfastness in facing Iran's attacks and deterring them as well as its continuing serious, constructive, political and military positions.

On the clamor raised about France's delivery of the Super Etendards to Iraq, 'Ali said this clamor stems from the concern of certain states about their private interests and the continuous outflow of oil because the West and Japan are immensely dependent on the Arab Gulf oil.

On the objectives of his two recent visits to Baghdad and Amman, 'Ali said that he had no proposals for an Arab solidarity plan but added that Egypt welcomes Arab solidarity and believes in the need to take the necessary measures to prepare the Arab world for a restoration of unity of Arab ranks.

AL-AHRAM: Reagan To Support Iraq Against Iran

PM261726 Cairo Al-Ahram in Arabic 25 Oct 83 p 1

[Levon Keshishian report: "Reagan Considering Support for Iraqi in Gulf War To Avenge Beirut Incident"]

[Text] Washington — U.S. Government sources said that President Reagan is currently considering giving U.S. support to Iraq in the Gulf war in order to avenge for the blowing up of the U.S. Marines headquarters in Beirut.

The sources added that President Reagan has also looked into escalating U.S. intelligence covert operations against Iran from Turkish territory where about 1,000 Iranian oppositionists, including a number of SAVAK men (the Iranian secret police during the Shah's rule), are residing.

AL-AKHBAR: Arabs Will Pay for Beirut Bombings

PM281012 Cairo Al-Akhbar in Arabic 26 Oct 83 p 3

[Mahmud 'Abd al-Mun'im Murad article: "A Few Words"]

[Text] So far nobody knows for sure who was behind the simultaneous bombing of the U.S. and French forces' headquarters in Beirut. Of course nobody knows anything about the mentality of those who carried out the plan. They too were victims who knew that they were going to die and that they would not talk.

All the accusations made to date are the result of speculation, guesswork, study, analysis and search for those who stand to benefit from what happened. Strangely, the Americans are saying that the Russians benefit from the catastrophe and the Russians are saying the same thing about the Americans, maintaining that what happened will prompt the Americans to beef up their forces in Lebanon, resort to more violent methods and prolong their stay on Lebanese soil.

The Syrians are saying that Israel may have been behind the incident and Israel is saying that the operation was planned and carried out by Syria.

This trading of accusations will continue unless one side comes up with categorical evidence, which is unlikely.

The tragedy does not lie in the fact that 200 or 300 U.S. and French troops have died, or that they sacrificed their lives for peace, or that they were killed treacherously in their sleep and without taking part in any face-to-face fighting. The human aspect seems, unusually, to come last in this case. Mankind suffers many more casualties in such catastrophes as war, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and ordinary crimes.

The problem in this case is that this incident will have extremely grave political consequences. The price will be paid by the Arabs, all the Arabs, not by the United States, Russia, Iran or Israel.

The matter will not be confined to Lebanon where this is not something new in the chain of sabotage, destruction, killings, and reprisals. Lebanon has been experiencing this for the past 8 years. The problem will explode outside, around Lebanon, in the Arab world, in the Middle East, in the Islamic world, in the oil-rich areas, and the strategic areas over which the two superpowers and many other states are competing.

The victims are not the American and French soldiers who were killed in that ugly and painful incident. We, Muslims and Arabs, will all pay a high price which we probably deserve because we have been playing around, have been oblivious to everything, and have not shown willingness to work or learn a lesson.

Mubarak on Inspection Tour of Oil, Gas Sites

NC291550 Cairo MENA in English 1456 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, Oct 29 (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak said today that the current aim was to increase production so as to help alleviate the burdens from the hard working class of the Egyptian people.

President Mubarak who today resumed his inspection visits to production and work sites by a tour of the oil production areas in the Red Sea governorate expressed happiness over his visits to such huge oil projects.

Following his five hour tour he said that he like any Egyptian citizen feels proud at seeing Egyptian engineers and technicians

running such highly sophisticated technological sectors.

During the tour which covered Ra's Shuqayr area, one of the greatest oil sites in Egypt, President Mubarak was accompanied by Premier Dr. Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din and Deputy Premier and Oil Minister 'Izz ad-Din Hilal.

President Mubarak also inaugurated a plant for natural gas production, the capacity of which amounts to 80 million cubic meters a day.

Foreign Ministry 'Source' on Lebanese Conference

NC281423 Cairo MENA in English 1412 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, Oct 28 (MENA) — An official source at the Foreign Ministry said today that Egypt hopes that the Lebanese national reconciliation conference, to be held in Geneva on Monday, would yield positive results and achieve its targets.

The source, in an exclusive interview to MENA, said that the success of the Lebanese dialogue in Geneva would enable the Lebanese legitimate government to resume its efforts to secure the withdrawal of the foreign forces from Lebanon, especially the Israeli forces, which must retreat from every inch of the Lebanese soil.

The source said that success of the Lebanese dialogue will also pave that way for the rebuilding of the Lebanese National Army, which should take up the responsibilities instead of all the foreign forces in Lebanon.

Referring to the recent contact between Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, the source said that this is a good sign that could help bring about national reconciliation, stability and Lebanese sovereignty.

The source added that the Foreign Ministry will study the coming steps for the Egyptian diplomatic drive in the light of the reports to be submitted to President Husni Mubarak by Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy premier and foreign minister, and State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali.

Secret Organization Members Referred to Trial

NC301648 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1410 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Excerpts] Cairo, 30 Oct (MENA) — The State Security Prosecution today decided to refer 16 defendants to trial by the emergency Supreme State Security Court on charges of establishing a hostile secret organization called "The Peoples Movement" [Al-Harakah Ash-Sha'biyah] and of pursuing a line of revolutionary violence and armed struggle to achieve their strategic aim of toppling the existing regime and seizing power by force.

The bill of indictment, which was read by Counsellor Raja' al-'Arabi the State Security Prosecution attorney general, requested the application of the penal code articles which provide for sentencing these defendants to life imprisonment at hard labor, for continued detention of the defendants, and for the arrest of three fugitive defendants including two Palestinians.

The State Security Prosecution said that some of these defendants accepted and received money totaling $4,000 from the fugitive Palestinian defendants outside Egypt to be used for the organization.

The prosecution's remarks indicated that investigations have uncovered the role of the leader of the organization, defendant Ahmad 'Abd al-Jawad at-Tuni. He tried to form an armed branch as an auxiliary to the political organization, with a view to opening the way for other hostile forces and elements opposed to the existing regime and its policies to join the organization and use methods of armed struggle and confrontation.

The State Security Prosecution pointed out that investigations also uncovered the secret headquarters of the organization. A search of the headquarters led to the seizure of typewriters and printing machines which were used in typing and printing many pamphlets and publications containing analyses revealing the ideology and objectives of the organization.

Court Rules on Legality of Neo-Wafd Party

NC291622 Cairo MENA in English 1538 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, Oct 29 (MENA) — The State Council's administrative court has ruled that the Neo-Wafd party never dissolved itself and, therefore, continues to have legal status.

At its session here today, the court decided to stop the implementation of the parties committee's decision, considering the Neo-Wafd party to have dissolved itself.

The court also ruled that the Neo-Wafd party is entitled to submit lists of candidates for the people's and local councils elections due to be held on November three. The governor of Cairo had refused to accept the party lists, on the basis of the parties' committee's decision considering the Neo-Wafd to have dissolved itself.

In its whereases, the court said that the Neo-Wafd party was established on the basis of a certificate issued by the political parties committee, indicating that it had met all legal requirements for its foundation.

The court further said that the decision of the general assembly of the Neo-Wafd party on February four, 1978, to dissolve itself was stopped as a result of the objection of the party's higher committee and replaced, instead, by a decision to freeze the party's activities. The court also indicated that nothing had happened to require that the Neo-Wafd party be deprived of the right to submit lists candidates to [word indistinct] and local councils' elections.

Further on Court Decision

NC291624 Paris AFP in English 1603 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, Oct 29 (AFP) — The Neo-Wafd party, a revival of the Al-Wafd Nationalist Party that was active between the two

world wars, won a major victory today in its bid to become Egypt's sixth legally recognised political group, when a court reversed official objections to Neo-Wafd candidates in coming elections.

Neo-Wafd was formed in 1978 with the aim of liberalizing the regime of Anwar as-Sadat, who was president at the time. But it soon ceased its activities in protest at a presidential decree forbidding public activities "to anyone who had corrupted political life before 1952."

The ban evidently referred to the Neo-Wafd, a revival of the Al-Wafd nationalist group which disbanded in 1953.

Last August, Neo-Wafd announced a resumption of activities as a result of the "complete change" brought about by Mr Sadat's successor, Husni Mubarak.

As the 1978 law was still in force, it was still unclear whether Neo-Wafd would be treated as a new political party. The uncertainty intensified when, a few days after the announcement, the government's party committee ruled that Neo-Wafd had "no legal existence."

Another condition of official recognition required a party to have at least 20 members of Parliament, and Neo-Wafd put forward candidates in two local elections, on November 3, in Cairo districts.

But the governor of Cairo rejected the party's candidates, and Neo-Wafd turned to the Egyptian courts to appeal against the authorities' objections.

They appeared to have won that legal battle today, when the Egyptian Privy Council told the Cairo governor and the party committee to suspend their decisions.

The decision was greeted with jubilation by Neo-Wafd's lawyers and 200 supporters in court.

The Privy Council cannot go back on the decision, Neo-Wafd's vice-president, Walid Ra'afat, told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

He hailed the judgement as a "very courageous step" which showed the "independence" of Egypt's judiciary.

If Neo-Wafd's claim to legal recognition is ultimately realised, the group will join the ruling National Democratic Party, the Marxist-Nasserite Progressive Unionist Party, the centre-right Al-Ahrar party, the opposition Labour Party and Al-Umma, an Islam-based organisation.

Muhyi ad-Din Interviewed on Arab, Israeli Contacts

NC280930 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0820 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] London, 28 Oct (MENA) — Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din said undeclared and continuous contacts are taking place between Egypt and all Arab countries. He added the result will be in the interest of the Arab nation.

In an interview with the London-based weekly magazine *At-Tadamun* which will be published tomorrow, Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din said: The dialogue with Colonel al-Qadhdhafi was repeated more than once. Libyan envoys used to come to us. Upon their return to their country, Libyan propaganda campaigns would begin against Egypt.

Regarding the next Arab summit conference, the prime minister said: We demand the summit participants adopt a unified resolution and a unified Arab confrontation of the fateful issues. He added that the Palestinian problem, the Lebanese crisis, and the Gulf war are three main issues that will face the summit. He said these issues are urgent and should not be postponed, stressing that the Palestinian problem should not be postponed and should not wait for the solution of the Lebanese crisis.

Regarding relations between Cairo and Baghdad, Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din said in his interview that these relations are principled and good. He said: We supply Iraq with arms, but we have no military presence in Iraq.

Touching on the Lebanese crisis, the prime minister said the Lebanese national reconciliation should not be at the expense of the Palestinian issue, because the Lebanese situation and the solution of the Palestinian issue are separate issues. He affirmed that Egypt supports Lebanese legitimacy and will never be biased in favor of a sect or a faction against the other. The prime minister added: We want a unified Lebanon, a unified people, and a unified government enjoying full sovereignty over all Lebanese soil.

Regarding the Egyptian stance toward the PLO, the prime Minister said Egypt supports Palestinian legitimacy and the PLO. The PLO should have a free will and should be the true and firm expression of the Palestinian people. He added that Egypt has not and will never have any group within the PLO. This is a positive matter based on our principles. He added that Egypt had never tried and will never try to infiltrate or control the PLO. Egypt leaves the Palestinians to express themselves freely and in the way they like.

Dr Muhyi ad-Din said PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat had more than once asked Egypt and other Arab leaderships to exert every effort to safeguard the legitimate leadership of the PLO.

Regarding Egyptian-Israeli relations, the prime minister said the Egyptian ambassador's return to Tel Aviv is conditional on the withdrawal from Lebanon, the return of Tabah, and the stopping of the building of settlements. He affirmed that President Husni Mubarak did not discuss this question in Washington as it is a domestic issue and a fully Egyptian decision.

Dr Muhyi ad-Din also affirmed that the Egyptian ambassador's return to Moscow and the Soviet ambassador's return to Cairo were not discussed in Washington at all... [MENA ellipsis] The place to discuss such a question is not the United States, but Cairo. He said trade relations with Moscow are broad and the value of trade exchange during the coming year will amount to $700 million.

Discussing Egypt's domestic affairs, Dr Muhyi ad-Din stressed that the basic challenge facing the government is the economic challenge, that the budget deficit is under control, and that average growth is constantly increasing and has reached eight percent.

Regarding the Emergency Law, he said during 2 years martial laws were not used except for confronting terrorism.

Concerning the next parliamentary elections and whether the government will adopt a specific stand regarding the return of Al-Wafd Party to political activity, the prime minister said the next elections will be held with complete neutrality and without any interference by the government administration. By-elections were recently held to fill 12 constituencies in the People's Assembly. The elections were held without any interference by the government. This was evident in the fact that in the Al-Wadi al-Jadid constituency an independent candidate, not the NDP candidate, won the elections. Regarding the question of Al-Wafd Party: "I do not wish to discuss this matter as the case is now entirely in the hand of the judiciary." We will not interfere and the issue is not one of a government's stand. The question is whether or not Al-Wafd Party dissolved itself. This question will be decided on by the judiciary.

Answering a question regarding the NDP and the government's relations with opposition parties, Dr Muhyi ad-Din said the opposition parties meet everywhere and say whatever they wish. Such is democracy; democracy is freedom of expression and freedom of assembly.

The prime minister was asked whether there was a curfew, or sequestration, or press censorship in Egypt. He said all these provisions are included in the Emergency Law, but none were used for 2 years and they will not be used in the coming phase.

He affirmed that the Emergency Law is not directed against the citizen's welfare, safety, property, honor, or dignity. We are now thinking of enacting a law to fight terrorism similar to the law existing in Britain, Germany, and Italy.

AKHBAR AL-YAWM Views Relations With USSR

PM2610946 Cairo Akhbar Al-Yawm in Arabic 22 Oct 83 p 8

[Ibrahim Sa'dah article: "Egypt and the Soviet Union"]

[Excerpts] It is very difficult for the Soviet Union to deal with the small countries on an equal footing. When it establishes "normal" relations with a Third World country it realizes that the country expects from it support and economic and military aid repayable in easy installments over a long period of time. In return the Soviet Union believes that it has the right to interfere in the internal affairs of the country and to have its own views on both its domestic and foreign policies. It specifies for the country which countries it can deal with and which it cannot deal with.

Woe unto anyone who fails to carry out Moscow's instructions. Aid will stop or will be deferred, pressure will increase, rumors will spread, conspiracy will widen, economic siege will be tightened, and arms deals will be frozen. In such a case the small country will find itself helpless, for its contacts with the noncommunist countries are severed, relations with the capitalist world nonexistent, its needs for Eastern arms are not being met, its economic development projects come to a standstill, and parts for its factories are not available.

The government of the small country becomes worried and does not believe that the big friend is punishing it and besieging it for no reason other than because it wanted to preserve its independence and sovereignty over its land. It sends delegations to Moscow and holds prolonged talks; it reviews its previous stands when it supported the Soviets, applauded them, and voted with them on every occasion. But the Soviet negotiator is not convinced and remains adamant. The small state has committed an unforgivable sin and given itself a right to which it is not entitled. Any leniency in the face of such a sin is unsafe and unacceptable. There can be no return to "normal" relations except after reprimand and punishment.

The small state will be in an unenviable position. It has no choice but to go down on its knees and submit or bear the consequences of its firm stand and refusal to give in. If it kneels down and submits then the big "friend" will have no mercy on it and will not forgive it if it ever tries to pursue an independent policy or maintain its sovereignty. Going back to the previous state of affairs calls for further conditions. Resuming "normal" relations requires many changes that have to be accepted. The government of the small country which committed this major sin must be toppled and the elements that have planned this mutiny against the Soviet Union must be expelled from their positions. The tune of openness toward the world must be stifled and any attempt to improve relations with countries hostile to the communist camp must be resisted and stopped. When all this is achieved Moscow will promise to reconsider its attitude and the possibility of resuming relations and cooperation with the small state.

If the small state adheres to its position and refusal then there is no hope of resuming normal relations with the big "friend" and all contacts and discussions will be futile.

Egypt was one of the countries that stood their ground and refused. Our country was one of the countries economically and politically linked to the Soviet Union. We were hostile to those hostile to it and friendly with those friendly with it. For many years we had no relations and contacts except with the Eastern bloc. We copied its economic system, showed enthusiasm for its internal policies, and sang the praise of its technical, cultural, and military achievements. All our imports came from the Eastern bloc and all our exports went to it. Those relations could have become even stronger had we not persisted in demanding arms which our Army needed for the future battle with Israel in order to expel it from our occupied territories. The Soviet Union rejected our persistence and refused to send us the arms we asked for. It only sent what it thought was suitable for our needs because, from its standpoint, it knows what is good and what is bad for us.

This was neither logical nor acceptable, for we were preparing for the big battle and mobilizing all our resources for it. We were confident that our big friend and ally appreciated our predicament and would do everything it could to help us and provide

us with military and economic needs. But its unexpected stand compelled us to review our policy and our method in dealing with foreign countries in general.

The policy of alliance with one camp against another proved to be wrong. It was also proved that breaking off relations with most of the world countries and confining those relations to one country and to those revolving in its orbit was a great loss for us.

We then became open to the whole world and established really normal relations with all those who wanted to establish relations with us and who did not interfere in our policies, stands, and sovereignty. We adopted the principle of diversifying our sources of armaments so that we will not find ourselves in the predicament we were in when we had only one source of armament and when this source refused to honor its obligations and stopped its supplies when the countdown for our battle against the Israeli occupier began.

The Soviet Union did not accept this Egyptian "mutiny" and so its relations with us became lukewarm and its contacts with us stopped. In its view we have become a country aligned with the capitalist camp. Any contact with a Western country was in its view a conspiracy against the Eastern bloc and any economic and military aid we obtain from the United States is allegedly a proof of our allinace with the camp hostile to the communist camp.

The Soviets do not believe what we declare and say. They do not believe that we did not get rid of Soviet dominance in order to come under U.S. dominance. They do not believe we deal with all countries on an equal footing and in the light of our own interest first. They do not believe our recent revival of our leading role in the Nonaligned Movement, for which Egypt was the first planner and thinker, is genuine. Nor do they believe thatwe praise our special relations with the United States basically because there is no U.S. interference in our internal affairs and no imperialist pressure influences our decision or jeopardizes our sovereignty. The Soviet Union believes none of this because it is contrary to its views about the relations that can exist between a major power and a small power.

This fundamental difference between the Egyptian and Soviet views is the reason for the delay in restoring normal relations between the two countries. Recently Egypt has declared many times that it wishes to end the lukewarmness in relations with the Soviet Union, but it is the Moscow leaders who are hampering efforts of reconciliation with them.

Iraqi Ministry Official Arrives 30 October

NC301918 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1905 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 30 Oct (MENA) — Iraqi Deputy Interior Minister 'Adnan Ghaythani arrived in Cairo this evening on a weeklong visit to Egypt. He was received at the airport by Deputy Interior Minister Major General Ahmad Bulbul.

Defense Minister Abu Ghazalah Leaves for FRG

NC010727 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0708 GMT 1 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, 1 Nov (MENA) — Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, left Cairo for the FRG today on a 5-day official visit.

During the visit Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah and his delegation will hold talks with the FRG defense minister and other high-ranking officials on means of developing military cooperation between Egypt and the FRG.

Communique Says Iranian Naval Targets Hit

JN311802 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1725 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Communique No 1,265 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 31 October 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our brave Armed Forces, while fighting the Khomeynist aggressors on land, at sea, and in the air in defense of cherished Iraq's land, sky, and waters, will continue — with the help of Almighty God — to carry the banner of victory, glory, and efficiency. The results of the activities carried out in the operational sectors yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. This morning our capable naval forces detected several enemy naval targets in the northeastern part of the Arab Gulf while trying to enter Bandar-e Khomeyni. Our valiant naval units and bold fighter planes intercepted them, dealt them strong and direct blows, and managed to hit three of these targets effectively and seriously. In the meantime, the remaining enemy naval targets fled in panic and entered the minefield laid by our naval forces in the approaches leading to Bandar-e Khomeyni, where two other enemy naval targets were destroyed and sunk after hitting the mines. The remaining enemy naval targets then fled in disarray and confusion to Bandar-e Deylam, leaving the hit and destroyed targets to sink in the Arab Gulf waters. All our naval units and fighter planes returned safely to base, praise be to God.

We repeat our warning to all parties cooperating with the Iranian enemy against sending their vessels to the prohibited and mined zones as indicated in our previous communiques and statements.

2. Today our capable helicopter gunships carried out strong attacks on the enemy positions and vehicles in the northern sector of the battlefield, scoring direct and effective hits, and inflicting large losses. A series of explosions could be heard from the areas where the enemy positions and equipment were hit. All our helicopter gunships returned to base safely, praise be to God.

3. Our forward units opened fire on several enemy troops opposite our positions in the northern sector of the battlefield, killing 15 and wounding others. Last week our artillery dealt direct blows to enemy targets opposite our forward units' positions elsewhere in the same sector, killing 21, wounding others, and destroying 5 vehicles of various types.

4. One of our forward units opened fire on two enemy patrols which tried to approach our forward positions in the area east of Basra and forced them to flee. The enemy also sustained three killed elsewhere in the same sector.

5. Today the vile Khomeyniite regime shelled Basra and Khanaqin and their outskirts as well as Sayyid Sadiq, (Shandari), and Khurmal with artillery. The savage enemy shelling wounded one citizen and one woman and damaged a car in Khanaqin. It also caused damage and losses to some civilian establishments in Basra, Sayyid Sadiq, (Shandari), and Khurmal.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 31 October 1983

Netherlands, GDR Ministers Arrive in Baghdad

JN310850 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0800 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad — Frederick Bolkestein, the Netherlands' minister of foreign trade, and his delegation arrived in Baghdad yesterday to attend the opening ceremony of the Baghdad International Fair. In a statement to INA, Bolkestein said that the Baghdad International Fair is a good opportunity to promote economic and trade cooperation among participating states, pointing out that his country's contribution to the fair has been expanded. Fifteen Netherlands companies are taking part in the fair. He said that his country is exerting efforts in international forums to stop the Iraq-Iranian war and reach a permanent, peaceful solution that guarantees the rights of the two neighboring countries.

He was received on arrival by Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and minister of trade; a number of Trade Ministry officials; and the Netherlands ambassador in Baghdad.

Wolfgang Junker, GDR minister of construction, and his delegation also arrived in Baghdad to take part in the 20th Baghdad International Fair which will open tomorrow, Tuesday.

Agreement With Netherlands

JN311550 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1220 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Oct (INA) — Iraq and the Netherlands today signed an agreement for economic, commercial, and technical cooperation.

The agreement, which is aimed at organizing economic cooperation and at diversifying and expanding trade, was signed by Iraq's Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and minister of trade, and the Netherlands' Frederick Bolkestein, minister of foreign trade.

In a speech during the signing ceremony, Hasan 'Ali expressed his confidence that this economic document signals an actual start for establishing economic and commercial relations between Iraq and the Netherlands. During the ceremony, the two sides exchanged messages aimed at forming an Iraqi-Netherlands joint committee for economic, commercial, and technical cooperation.

Earlier today, Hasan 'Ali, RCC and trade minister, met with Frederick Bolkestein, Netherlands minister of foreign trade, and the accompanying delegation and reviewed means of bolstering bilateral economic relations to serve the two countries' mutual interests.

Light Industry Cooperation

JN311936 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Tariq Hamad al-'Abdallah, minister of light industries, and Frederick Bolkestein, Netherlands minister of foreign trade, today discussed cooperation between the two countries in the light industry sector. They also reviewed the economic and technical agreement between the two countries, and both sides's concerns about considering it a beginning for comprehensive cooperation.

The Iraqi minister reviewed the dimensions of the Iranian regime's aggression against our country, and the insistence of this regime on continuing the war against our country and rejecting all peace efforts.

Bolkestein asserted his country's interest in strengthening and expanding cooperation with Iraq.

Construction Talks With GDR

JN311343 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1210 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Oct (INA) — Muhammad Fadil Husayn, minister of housing and reconstruction, today met with Wolfgang Junker, GDR minister of construction, and discussed with him the means of promoting bilateral cooperation between the two friendly countries. During the meeting, they also reviewed ways of developing bilateral cooperation in the various fields, particularly in relation to housing and reconstruction.

It is to be noted that the GDR minister is currently visiting the country to attend the opening ceremony of the Baghdad International Fair.

Ramadan Receives GDR Minister

JN311940 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, today received Wolfgang Junker, GDR minister of construction. Taha Yasin Ramadan welcomed the guest minister, indicating that this visit, which coincides with the opening of the Baghdad International Fair, aims at strengthening and bolstering bilateral relations in various spheres to serve the common interests of both friendly peoples.

The first deputy prime minister asked the GDR minister to convey his appreciation to GDR Council of Ministers Chairman Willi Stoph, expressing Iraq's satisfaction with the good and developing relations between both countries and the earnest desire to strengthen these relations.

The first deputy prime minister reviewed the Iraqi-Iranian war, pointing out Iraq's earnest and sincere desire to achieve peace in the region. He asserts that our people under President Saddam Husayn are determined to continue to defend the homeland's soil while at the same time increasing development and construction in our militant country.

Junker conveyed the greetings of the GDR Council of Ministers chairman to the first deputy prime minister and the GDR's desire to expand and bolster cooperation. He expressed satisfaction with Iraq's progress and the readiness of the GDR companies to implement many development projects in Iraq. The guest minister expressed admiration for the progress in Iraq despite the war conditions, indicating the GDR Government's appreciation for Iraq's earnest efforts to achieve peace and stop the fighting with Iran.

Junker asserted that his visit to Iraq to attend the opening ceremony of the Baghdad International Fair confirms the GDR's firm support for Iraq. This visit also shows the GDR's concern about strengthening cooperation in all spheres to serve both friendly peoples.

During the meeting, which was attended by the GDR ambassador in Baghdad, Arab international issues were discussed.

President Receives Cable from GDR's Honecker

JN301849 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] President Saddam Husayn, secretary of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party Regional Command, has received a thank-you cable from Erich Honecker, general secretary of the central committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] and chairman of the State Council, in reply to the congratulatory cable that President Saddam Husayn sent to him on GDR national day. The following is the text of the cable:

Comrade Saddam Husayn, secretary of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party Regional Command, RCC chairman, and president of the Iraqi Republic: On behalf of the GDR people and in my own name, I would like to express to you my sincere thanks for your kind congratulations on GDR national day. Allow me to express my deep conviction that the relations and firm friendship between our peoples and countries will develop further in the future. Erich Honecker, general secretary of the Central Committee of the SED and chairman of the GDR State Council.

Taha Yasin Ramadan Receives Japanese Official

JN311557 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1330 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Oct (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, received here today Toshijiro Nakajima, Japanese deputy minister of foreign affairs. Ramadan affirmed Iraq's concern and desire to develop bilateral relations between the two countries to serve the two peoples' interests. Ramadan also reviewed the Iraqi-Iranian war and affirmed the Iraq forces' ability to crush the invading aggressors despite all their attempts to attack our land and sovereignty. Ramadan also noted the strength of our national economy and our ability to implement development projects in our country.

Nakajima reaffirmed his country's eagerness to expand and deepen cooperation with Iraq to serve the two countries' mutual interests.

Trade Minister Confers With Bahraini Counterpart

JN311545 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1425 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Oct (INA) — Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister, met here this morning Habib Ahmad Qasim, Bahraini minister of trade and agriculture, and the accompanying delegation currently visiting Iraq to attend the opening ceremony of the 20th Baghdad International Fair.

During the meeting, 'Ali noted the spectacular victories of the heroes of the I Army Corps against the rancorous Iranian enemy and their repulsion of its rabid attacks. 'Ali also indicated that Iraq will always remain the able, faithful guard and defender of the eastern flank of the Arab homeland and the Arab nation's fateful issues.

The Bahraini minister of trade and agriculture affirmed Bahrain's support for fraternal Iraq. 'Ali and Qasim also discussed economic and trade relations between the two countries and means of promoting and developing these relations to serve the interests of the Arab nation.

Joint Minutes on Cooperation With Norway Signed

JN311744 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1650 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Oct (INA) — Joint minutes were signed here today at the conclusion of the 3-day meetings of the Joint Iraqi-Norwegian Committee on Economic, Trade, and Technical Cooperation. The minutes were signed on the Iraqi side by Subhi Yasin, minister of industry and minerals, and on the Norwegian side by Asbjorn Haugstvedt, Norwegian minister of commerce and shipping.

The Iraqi minister said that these minutes will contribute to the development of cooperation between the two countries and to an increase in economic cooperation and trade to serve the interests of both peoples. The Norwegian minister said that he was proud that both sides had agreed on all issues pertaining to the broadening and expansion of cooperation between the two countries.

The joint minutes contained clauses dealing with promoting cooperation between the two countries in the transmission and distribution of electrical energy and the manufacture of relevant equipment. These clauses also dealt with the electronics industry, computers, aluminum, river transportation, construction, town and regional planning, oil, oil industry, and technical training.

Turkish Energy Official Arrives for Talks

JN311332 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1140 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Oct (INA) — (Irdimir Karakash), Turkish under secretary for energy and natural resources, arrived here at dawn today at the head of a delegation on a visit to Iraq. In a statement, (Karakash) said that his visit falls within the framework of bolstering the existing friendship between the two countries and of completing previous talks on joint oil ventures.

Euro-Arab Parliamentary Meeting Issues Statement

JN311700 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1500 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Oct (INA) — Arab and European parliamentarians have hailed Iraq's initiatives aimed at ending the tragic conflict with Iran. They also hailed Iraq's agreement with Security Council resolutions that call for a cease-fire and also Iraq's acceptance of mediation proposals.

In a statement issued here today at the conclusion of the symposium on Euro-Arab parliamentary dialogue, the parliamentarians welcomed Iraq's agreement to cease fire in the Arab gulf and guarantee free shipping there. They expressed the hope that Iran will also agree to this.

In their final statement, the Arab and European parliamentarians called on the Security Council to supervise the cease-fire by appointing UN observers. The statement called on Iraq and Iran to hold direct negotiations immediately after the cease-fire in order to achieve a just and comprehensive peace that respects the national rights of both sides. The statement called on all Arab and European governments to support this call and to consider in their future policies the extent of the response of civilians on both sides to this call.

The statement emphasized that peace, which must be attained in the Arab Gulf region, must be followed by a reconstruction program in the interest of both sides in which Arab and European governments would participate and which will be extended to include Lebanon.

The statement affirmed that the danger emanating from the possibility of military escalation in the Iraqi-Iranian conflict and subsequent threats will facilitate the intervention of foreign forces, us threatening world peace and the economic interests of the region's peoples and other regions. The parliamentarians denounced the Zionist occupation of Lebanon, the inhuman Zionist acts there, and Zionist interference in Lebanon's internal affairs. They stressed the need to implement Security Council Resolutions 508 and 509, which call for Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon. They also called for the implementation of Resolution 502, which stipulates the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon. The statement welcomed the Lebanese national dialogue scheduled to be held in Geneva in order to achieve national reconciliation.

The parliamentarians reaffirmed their recognition of the PLO under its democratically elected leadership as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. The parliamentarians also reaffirmed their support for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to establish their sovereign state in Palestine and their right to return. The parliamentarians urged the governments which signed the four Geneva conventions in 1949 to ensure that Israel implements the rules of these conventions, particularly regarding the protection of civilians under occupation and respect for the condition of POW's.

In their statement, the parliamentarians denounced the Israeli Government's settlement policy, which is aimed at openly annexing the territories occupied in 1967. They urged the European community to use its political, economic, commercial, and

finanacial powers to force Israel to halt its illegal settlement policy, end its violation of human rights, and prevent it from expelling more Palestinians from their homeland. The statement urged all Arab and European governments to extend the largest possible aid to the organizations that provide humane services for the Palestinian refugees and prisoners.

The parliamentarians expressed their desire to bolster Euro-Arab parliamentary dialogue in the economic field in order to achieve a stronger Euro-Arab cooperation in the general framework of the relations between South and North.

Na'im Haddad, Iraqi National Assembly speaker, delivered a brief speech at the final session on behalf of the Arab parliamentarians in which he expressed appreciation for the European parliamentarians' effective participation by enriching the symposium with their sound opinions and proposals. He said that the topics which were discussed on the symposium's agenda will contribute to laying the foundations for political, economic, scientific, and cultural cooperation between the Arab and European groups. Haddad praised the stands of the European countries that recognize the PLO and supported Arab rights. He affirmed that the interaction of ideas will inevitably lead to convergent Euro-Arab views on various cooperation issues, mutual interests, and the attainment of world peace.

The symposium on Euro-Arab parliamentary dialogue, in which 90 parliamentarians representing 12 Arab and 12 European parliaments as well as the European Parliament and the European Council took part, lasted 3 days. Observers from the Arab League and the Arab-Brazilian Parliamentary Friendship Society also took part.

President Addresses Message to Sofia Conference

JN261657 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text of President Saddam Husayn's message to the Peace and Solidarity Conference for Preventing Nuclear War, currently being held in Sofia — date not given]

[Text] President of the conference, ladies and gentlemen: On the occasion of the convocation of your conference in Sofia, capital of friendly Bulgaria, under the slogan of Peace and Solidarity for Preventing Nuclear War, we would like to send you our warm greetings and wishes for success in serving the noble aim for which your conference is being held — the aim of serving peace and mobilizing world public opinion against the dangers of nuclear war.

There is no doubt that your conference basically aims at explaining and drawing the world's attention to the dangers the nuclear arms race and nuclear tests pose to the future of all mankind. These dangers are today evident in the feverish race for nuclear armament, as if all are heading toward mass suicidal operations, since the huge number of nuclear weapons, the means of their transporation, and their comprehensive, destructive energies exceed all limits of possible tragedies that human imagination can conceive. Under such circumstances, we, like you, cannot remain silent over the possession of nuclear weapons by racist regimes like Pretoria and Tel Aviv, which are full of grudges against peoples and which use them as blackmail to continue the implementation of their racist and hostile policies, thus jeopardizing world peace and security in Asia and Africa.

In this regard, we would like to indicate the criminal Zionist aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations, which were completely devoted to peaceful purposes. You are well informed that the various international circles have condemned this vile aggression.

However, we would like to present to you another aspect which is, in our opinion, in full harmony with the issues to be discussed by your conference.

We in Iraq clearly believe that any attack on peaceful nuclear installations with traditional weapons should be considered an attack with nuclear weapons because the repercussions of such an attack pose the danger of radiation. We noted with satisfaction that this sound concept was reflected in the resolution adopted by the IAEA during its general congress this month as cited in the document carrying reference numbers 703 and 2 on 14 October 1983. While reminding your esteemed conference of this important subject, we greatly hope that your conference will discuss it and give it due attention and support so that we can all draw the attention of world public opinion to the repercussions and dangers of these attacks.

We must remind your conference that the Tel Aviv regime exploited the circumstances of the war which the Iranian regime imposed on us to launch its criminal attack on the Iraqi nuclear installations. This war has entered its fourth year and has led to massive losses in life and property. Despite the fact that Iraq was and is still a victim of this Iranian agression, it has, from the beginning, responded to all peaceful initiatives to end the war and find a just and honorable solution guaranteeing the two sides' rights.

The world knows that Iraq, from the beginning of the war, has been aspiring for peace and that the aggressor Iranian regime has been persisting in continuing aggression and war, disregarding the interests and will of the region's peoples and the international community. The Iranian regime, which is prolonging war and aggression against Iraq, is held fully responsible for its reckless policy. It is no secret to your esteemed conference that the Iranian regime's threats to expand the circle of war and close the Strait of Hormuz will lead to dangers whose dimensions are difficult to predict and will give pretexts for foreign interference in the region.

We repeat our greetings and best wishes for success to you.

Egypt Urged To Freeze Oil Pact With Israel

JN291229 Baghdad Corner of Arab Egypt in Arabic 2050 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Unattributed talk from the "Normalization" program]

[Text] Will the agreement on the supply of Egyptian oil to Israel be canceled? The date is approaching for renewing the

agreement on the supply of Egyptian oil to the Zionist enemy. This is the biggest and most dangerous agreement on the normalization of relations because under this agreement Israel obtains about 25 percent of its petroleum requirements at a cost of $500 million.

The flow of a such a large quantity of Egyptian oil to the Zionist enemy is considered the biggest support for Israel at a time when it is committing more than one aggression against the Arab nation. Undoubtedly, the suspension of the flow of oil to Israel could have been the most important measure in protest of Zionist practices, especially with regard to the invasion of Lebanon.

The Zionist enemy still thinks that by using U.S. pressure it can continue the normalization policy with Egypt. Therefore, it is holding to this agreement, which obliges Egypt, under U.S. guarantees, to sell its oil to Israel. As a matter of fact, Israel tried at the negotiations which took place at the beginning of this year to extort other gains such as participating in oil prospecting and joint petrochemical projects. Although Israel is not able to extort more gains from Egypt in this field, it is trying to achieve that through U.S. and Western firms, which have obtained and are obtaining new concessions for oil prospecting in the Gulf of Suez and all along the Red Sea coast.

Therefore, the renewal of the oil agreement between Egypt and Israel calls for a stand which should at least rise to the level of freezing relations in several fields if only as a protest against the Zionist occupation of Lebanon, the policy of building Zionist settlements in the West Bank, and the Shamir government's announcement that 1985 shall be the year of the Judaization of the West Bank. The nonrenewal of the agreement on the sale of Egyptian oil to Israel to check the Zionist invasion of Egypt through the normalization of relations would be a decisive move. Would this be a pressing demand before the Egyptian decision and the makers of this decision, especially since President Husni Mubarak is the one who said that the majority of Egyptians believe that they were deceived by the Camp David agreement and that Israel's objective is not peace, but the neutralization of the Egyptian Army?

President Cables Condolences on Turkish Quake

JN311933 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1845 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Oct (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has expressed Iraq's condolences over the victims of the earthquake which hit the Erzurum area in eastern Turkey yesterday.

In his cable of condolence to Turkish President Kenan Evren today, the president said: We have received with great pain and dismay the news of the violent earthquake which hit the Erzurum area in the eastern part of friendly Turkey and which claimed the lives of a large number of people. In my name and on behalf of the Iraqi people, we send you and the friendly Turkish people our heartfelt condolences on this tragic incident. We implore God Almighty to grant you and the families of the victims patience and consolation. God hears and responds.

Reportage on National Consultative Council Session

Foreign Minister Discusses RDF

JN311440 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1220 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim's statement at the National Consultative Council in Amman on 31 October 1983, carried within the "Newsreel" program — recorded]

[Text] I am glad to have the opportunity to brief you on the impressions I had while I was in New York, where I participated in the 38th ordinary session of the UN General Assembly. As a result of my meetings with several foreign ministers, after listening to the statements made by others on the policies of their governments, and following the talks I had with them, I felt that our Arab causes have largely retreated in terms of the international community's attention. The question of the continuing Israeli occupation of Arab territories as well as the policies of annexation, Judaization, settlement, and evacuation, in addition to the war which is exhausting Iraq's energies, and other Arab issues were not treated with the seriousness or importance they deserve. Even the phrases of moral support that used to be given in the states' speeches became formal and aimed at avoiding blame.

We all realize the transformation that took place in the U.S. stand toward the Arab nation's fateful issues. This change in the states' stands is made clear also in the stands adopted by the European states, which used to express their concern through statements and initiatives. Now we find that such an activity has either diminished or vanished. The same applies in one way or another to the African and Asian stands and other world states which used to uphold our causes.

Mr Speaker, I do not think I need to say that this retreat on the international arena regarding our issues is in the first place due to the fragmented and divided Arab situation, under which Arab energies and capabilities are squandered and exhausted in the wrong way and in a manner which made the Arab world unable to uphold its causes and safeguard its rights and which led the others to stop supporting it and to deal with its issues with indifference. We cannot and should not expect the others to uphold our rights if we ourselves do not uphold them and if we do not provide the means of victory for these rights.

Mr Speaker, I do not want to review the details of the tragic situation prevailing in the Arab World because all are aware of the bitter fait accompli. It suffices to refer to the Palestinian question, the Israeli occupation of the Arab territories, and the policies of annexation, settlement, Judaization, displacement, control of resources, and other polices being implemented by Israel to force people to abandon their lands. There is the new scheme drawn up by Mordekhay Ben Porat's committee with the aim of assembling refugees in areas near the Jordan River until the suitable opportunity presents itself in order to expel them across the bridges. There is also the Med-Dead Sea canal project that Israel is implementing. This project will inflict massive losses on Jordan's vital economic interests. There are also constant Israeli efforts to solve the Palestinian question outside the framework of the national Palestinian soil at the expense of Jordan. There is the situation in Lebanon — a country which was exposed to invasion and partition attempts on a sectarian or realistic basis — a matter which eventually serves Israel's interests. In view of the gravity of the Lebanese situation, priority should be given to maintaining Lebanon's unity and preventing its partition. The continuation of the deteriorating Lebanese situation will negatively affect the neighboring Arab countries and fulfill Israel's dream of fragmenting the neighboring states into sectarian and ethnical entities so that it can maintain its hegemony and domination in the region.

There is also the war which is imposed on Iraq and which this country is waging in defense of the Arab nation and in support of its rights to its lands and waters as well as the Arab rights to the Arab Gulf. Although Iraq has positively responded to all mediation efforts to solve this conflict peacefully, and although Iraq has always constituted the strategic depth of the Arab confrontation states, as evidenced in the Iraqi convoys of martyrs in Sinai, Palestine, Jordan, and Syria from 1948-1973, we find that some have not only failed to support Iraq, but have also tried to weaken it. We also find that the Arab homeland's energies in the African flank have been preoccupied in peripheral issues unrelated to the basic Arab causes and essential needs.

The picture gets worse when we find that some have worked to drag the region to the arena of international conflict and to throw our just causes in the labyrinth of polarization instead of pooling support for the Arab causes from any side that might uphold our rights.

Mr Speaker, Jordan, under the leadership of His Majesty King Husayn, has done its best to draw attention to the evils of division and to the need for mobilization energies and building the intrinsic Arab capabilities by which rights can be safeguarded and restored. Jordan has done its best within its resources to couple words with deeds and to build its capabilities — capabilities which also serve the Arab nation.

Jordan pinned hopes on the results reached by the Arab leaders in the Amman summit 3 years ago for the sake of promoting a joint Arab action in the political, economic, and military spheres in the hope that the nation would rise to the level of the fateful challenges facing it by means of well studied action and sincere cooperation. We have the right to ask why the march of the joint Arab action was aborted and in whose interest.

Mr Speaker, Jordan has always upheld its nation's causes and contributed to supporting this nation's causes. It supported Iraq against the war imposed on it by Iran and sought to help Lebanon restore its stability and unity. It also tried to act according to the Fes summit resolutions and the new international developments in order to find a way by which occupation can be ended and eliminated and by which the Palestinian people can determine their destiny on their national soil. Therefore, Jordan embarked on a dialogue with the PLO. The circumstances at that time gave a ray of hope in the possible advance in this direction. Regrettably, the results unfolded in an unexpected manner. Even this ray of hope dwindled due to factors beyond our control.

In view of the fait accompli I have reviewed and in light of what is happening in the Arab arena, we are looking forward with hope

to the next Arab summit in Riyadh. We insist on holding this summit at its fixed time and on the attendance of all so that we can all assume responsibility toward stopping the deterioration and bleeding in the Arab situation, and so that we can solve the problems facing us whether in Lebanon, Iraq, or Palestine, and be committed to all that can strengthen the march of cooperation, solidarity, and mobilization of potential. This requires strengthening the positive aspects of relations among the Arab countries in an attempt to rescue the nation from its impasse, support Iraq against the enemy, and safeguard the independence of the Palestinian resistance movement.

Mr Speaker, there is a last point I want to discuss; namely, the fierce campaign which which was led by the official Israeli media and which was supported by propaganda in the U.S. media. They report on what they claim to be a Jordanian Rapid Deployment Force. The source and timing of this campaign confirm Israel's feelings toward any Jordanian attempt at obtaining sophisticated weapons to protect itself and the Arab nation. Jordan carries the message of its nation. It is for all of the Arabs. It has never been regionalistic in its trend or isolated from the worries of its nation. The Jordanian Armed Forces have participated in every place and on all the occasions which necessitated its participation. These forces battled to realize Arab rights in Palestine in 1948 and 1967; they offered to assist Egypt in 1956; and contributed toward supporting Kuwait and Oman and Syria in 1973. Jordan's position is a source of pride to Jordan and is a practical embodiment of the required Arab solidarity, cooperation, and mutual support.

The Israeli campaign is aimed at tarnishing Jordan's image and preventing its Armed Forces from obtaining advanced weapons to defend the homeland and the nation's rights. Israel wants to monopolize the advanced weapons produced by the United States.

Therefore, I would like to stress that Jordan has no connection whatsoever with the reports about the rapid or nonrapid deployment forces.

Thank you, Mr Speaker.

Badran Discusses Pan-Arab Issues

JN312040 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1240 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Prime Minister Mudar Badran's address at the National Consultative Council in Amman on 31 October, carried within the "Newsreel" program — recorded]

[Text] In view of its historical, ideological, cultural, and geographical nature Jordan has adopted and will continue to adopt a pan-Arab trend and an Arab policy. From this premise, Jordan has never closed the channels of communications with any Arab country. Jordan has always been eager to keep the channels of dialogue, contacts, and coordination open with all the Arab countries.

This is a basic rule which we have mentioned a lot in your esteemed council. We mentioned it from the premise of the real faith in this trend, because Jordan, within its geographic context and while it is standing in the face of the Zionist enemy, always senses the dire need to unify Arab forces and to achieve Arab solidarity. I previously said that Jordan is the Arab country which is harmed the most by the absence of unity, and solidarity and by fragmentation. When I say Jordan, I mean that Jordan is the center of that issue with respect to the entire Arab nation. Any harm that befalls Jordan will not be restricted to it but will also affect the entire Arab nation, particularly the Arab east.

On the issue submitted by Amin Shuqayr, the issue of coordination in the Gulf countries in case Jordan is asked to perform its duty — of course, such an eventuality may take place. I would like to remind the brothers that Jordan's Arab assistance has not been restricted to the Arab east only. When French forces landed in Bizerte, Jordan prepared to send airborne troops to Tunisia to defend Tunisia's Arab affiliation against the French forces. These troops waited several days for Tunisia's orders to move. Jordan has participated with its Armed Forces in every field where it was possible for Jordan to participate. Jordan's participation stems from the premise that when it faces any danger it will ask the Gulf Countries and the other Arab countries to come to its assistance. These are common pan-Arab interests. They are not one-sided, but have dual purposes. As for what is published about rapid deployment forces and the United States preparing for a rapid deployment force in Jordan, this is a Zionist claim propagated by the Zionist media, as the foreign minister had stated, whose objective is to prevent Jordan from becoming strong. I always wonder why so much attention is given to Jordan when it seeks to build its intrinsic strength. All the other countries are incessantly working to build their armed forces. But when Jordan seeks to build its military strength, world Zionism, embodied by Israel, raises a hue and cry and fabricates such claims to undermine our efforts.

The maturity of the Jordanian people and the Arab nation however, will be capable of responding to and cutting down to size these Zionist claims.

On the issue of terrorism, Jordan's stand is clear. Jordan does not support it at all and fights it with all means, particularly if this terrorism is directed against diplomatic envoys and peace envoys in the world. Any ambassador, even if he is not a Jordanian ambassador, must be protected by the country which he represents and by the country in which he is a representative. No country in the world can fully protect any of its ambassadors in the world at large because this is basically the duty of the host country. When the incident against our ambassador in India took place, we contacted the Indian prime minister directly and sent two teams, a medical team and an investigation team which participated with the Indian authorities in the investigations. The same took place in Italy.

We were in possession of information about terrorist quarters, terrorist organizations which intended to harm Jordan's stability. They carried out these two actions. We warned all of our embassies and the countries in which these ambassadors were present so that they could take the necessary precaution. As many of the brother council members mentioned, Jordan does not fear terrorism at all. Jordan will not be affected by any kind of terrorism as long as we believe in the course that we have chosen.

On the issue of Jordan's actions in the field of Arab solidarity and unity, Jordan's efforts in this regard have never ceased but the initiatives as I had mentioned to your esteemed council [sentence as heard]. I remember that I explained many details to the foreign relations committee. In this respect, His Majesty King Husayn has worked hard to achieve Arab solidarity and Arab unity. As one of the brothers has said, Jordan has never turned its back on any of these trends. For the sake of Arab solidarity, efforts continue to be exerted. We have held irect and indirect contacts. However, what can we do if the inclination of some Arab countries is a regional and local inclination and they are devoting their attention to regional expansion? They are not viewing the issue from a pan-Arab angle. This is beyond Jordan's control. In spite of this, we seek to close ranks and to put pressure on such countries to have them return to their principles, pan-Arabism, and solidarity, because through this course we can achieve the aspirations of our Arab people wherever they are. I believe that regional expansion and inclinations are the principal cause for the fragmentation of the Arab ranks. The Zionist scheme to Balkanize the region is now taking place in Lebanon.

His Majesty King Husayn, through the good contacts he has, contacted several leaders in Lebanon to bring about the meeting which is taking place now. He has worked for this objective for years. It took place only after more blood was shed and more fragmentation took place. We ask God that the Lebanese leaders will reach a decision on their domestic problems to restore unity and sovereignty to Lebanon.

On the issue of the Iraqi-Iranian war, had there been a real pan-Arab trend by all the Arab countries, this war would not have lasted this long. Israel has decided to prolong this war because it is in its interest. Had all the Arabs supported Iraq in this war, the Israeli invasion of Lebanon would not have taken place because Israel would have had to take into account the entire Arab nation. The prolongation of this war and the unilateral stands of some of the Arab brothers, however, have made us experience what we are experiencing.

On the issue of Gulf mediations to bring closer the Iraqi-Syrian viewpoints, we know that the Gulf countries' efforts in this respect continue. The Kuwaiti and Saudi foreign ministers made several visits to reconcile the two fraternal countries. The UAE president also undertook a similar initiative in this respect but these efforts were not crowned with success under the pretext that the dispute between Iraq and Syria is a party dispute and not a dispute between two countries, and that the Arabs must not interfere in party disputes but only in disputes among the Arab countries. I no not know how these party disputes can be settled.

On the issue mentioned by Dr Carlos, the issue of the dissidence which recently appeared within the PLO, the government issued an official statement on this issue, stressing the need to safeguard the PLO's legitimacy.

Jordan and some of the Arab brothers have exerted efforts in this direction. Efforts continue to be relentlessly exerted because Jordan and many Arab countries believe that if this legitimacy is wrested from the PLO, it cannot be bestowed on another organization whose leaders and decisionmaking are in the hands of another country. In other words, the Palestinian decisionmaking will no longer be a Palestinian one or one which is made by the legitimate PLO. Thus, this Palestinian decisionmaking will not represent the Palestinian people but will represent this other Arab country.

As many Arab countries have stated, if this takes place then one cannot deal with this organization which is manipulated by another Arab country. To prevent this from taking place, Jordan and the Arab countries continue their dialogue with the PLO and their efforts to save it and to safeguard its legitimacy.

On the issue of Egypt raised by 'Abd al-Jabir Tayyim, a resolution on this issue was adopted in the Baghdad summit conference. Jordan respects Arab summit resolutions. This is very well known. Jordan has not violated any resolution adopted by any Arab summit. Jordan adopts such a stand from the premise of Arab solidarity. Therefore, Jordan implements this policy. Any resolution to be adopted on this issue must be a resolution by the party which had adopted the previous resolution. This also requires an Arab summit resolution and not a unilateral resolution. In spite of this, our contacts with Egypt continue. We talk to them, hold dialogues with them in the interest of the Arab nation. We always seek to bring Egypt closer to the Arab causes from the premise that we cannot forget Arab Egypt's role in the past. Egypt exerted efforts and struggled for the sake of the Palestinian cause with all the strength it had. A new regime was established and it is seeking to come closer to the Arab nation. From this premise, our contacts continue. As you all know, the latest contact was the visit of the Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister to Jordan and to Baghdad. We also announced that lengthy talks were held on the Palestinian and Lebanese issues. We sensed no differences of viewpoints on the Lebanese issue. The Egyptian Government's trend on the Palestinian cause is that the Palestinian people must regain their legitimate rights.

I am not in a position to elaborate further in the open session of your esteemed council. As is our custom, we always put the council in the picture concerning all the current issues, whether these issues are connected to the domestic, Arab, and international arenas. Thank you.

NCC 31 October Policy Statement

JN311946 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 31 Oct 83

["Text" of statement issued by the National Consultative Council in Amman on 31 October]

[Text] 1. The National Consultative Council [NCC] which listened to the statement by Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim on Jordan's foreign policy and the Arab and international situation believes that the current Arab situation calls for exerting all efforts and mobilizing all potentials for improving the image of this situation and for establishing a new state of affairs that will be capable of confronting all challenges, obstacles, and crises through which our Arab nation is passing.

Out of the NCC's concern over the gravity of these circumstances, the NCC appeals to the Arab kings and leaders to

respond to the invitation for an Arab meeting and to convene the Arab summit conference on the date which was set for it. The NCC also appeals to the other Arab officials in the various Arab countries to provide all means of success for this meeting to enable the nation to regain its vitality and to stand in the face of all the schemes against it and against its existence.

2. The NCC vehemently deounces the two criminal attempts against Ambassadors Muhammad 'Ali Khurma and Taysir 'Ala' ad-Din Tuqan. The NCC reaffirms that this country, under His Majesty King Husayn's leadership, has been and will continue to remain committed to the causes of this nation and its goals for freedom, unity, and a free and decent life. No evildoer here or conspirator there will succeed in harming this country's steadfastness and the unity of its sons. Any attempt which seeks to make Jordan budge from its stands will be doomed to failure.

3. The NCC notes with appreciation and support the government's foreign policy within the context of His Majesty King Husayn's directives and asks the government to pursue the efforts and to adopt Jordanian stands on the various issues which our country and nation are facing.

Finally, the NCC cannot but express full loyalty and support for His Majesty King Husayn and asks Almighty God to protect this country and preserve it for the Arab nation's good.

PLA Commander Denounces Attacks on Ambassadors

JN310758 Amman Ar-Ra'y in Arabic 31 Oct 83 pp 1, 20

[Text] Amman — PETRA — His Majesty King Husayn has received a cable from the commander of the Palestine Liberation Army [PLA] in Jordan in which he greatly denounced the unjust and irresponsible assassination attempts against the Jordanian ambassadors in New Delhi and Rome. The following is the text of the cable:

The cruel attacks on the Jordanian ambassadors in New Delhi and Rome are considered by me and those who are affiliated with the PLO in Jordan as unjustified criminal acts. Jordan's King, Government, and people have devoted their lives to the Palestine question and are still devoting their lives in support of the Palestinian people and the PLO. The Jordanian and Palestinian peoples were closely united in the past and were moulded into one people, who together are facing their fate and destiny for better or for worse. Therefore, and stemming from our firm principles, we greatly denounce this cruel and irresponsble attack that was carried out by a group that has deovted itself to the devil. Proceed and we will proceed with you against all the forces of unjustice and aggression. May God grant you success.

National Dialogue Conference Opens 31 October

Al-Jumayyil Delivers Opening Speech

NC 312004 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1743 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Speech by President Amin al-Jumayyil at opening session of National Dialogue Conference at Inter-Continental Hotel in Geneva on 31 October — recorded]

[Text] Permit me to open the session. I am pleased to meet with you today and in this friendly and hospitable country, much of whose example we had, until the recent past, embodied in the east. Represented by its federation president, its government, and its people, this country deserves our profound gratitude and appreciation now and in the future.

While welcoming you, I would like to thank and greet the fraternal and friendly states, the groups, and the personalities that worked for and contributed to the accomplishment of this historical meeting. From my heart, I laud His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz for the efforts he made and the care he showed for Lebanon, especially for our conference. I also especially thank His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad for the efforts he made to prepare for this meeting and to purify its atmosphere. I also do not forget the sympathy and support of all the other fraternal states. I should not neglect to also greet the friendly states, particularly the Western states, which have adopted our homeland's cause and have sacrificed their comfort and efforts and the blood of their soldiers for the sake of this cause. I especially mention those states participating in the multinational peacekeeping force in Lebanon. To all of them — brothers, friends, kings, presidents, representatives, and aides — we extend lasting gratitude from all of us.

Gentlemen: I called you and you responded to the call. Perhaps all of us will respond to Lebanon's call. We came here seeking to save Lebanon, unite its people, restore its sovereignty, and strengthen brotherhood among the Lebanese and between the Lebanese and their Arab brothers on the basis of justice and dignity.

For the sake of these noble aims, we knock on all the doors in the world and make the dearest sacrifices, sparing nothing other than what is forbidden by God, rejected by the conscience, and disdained by pride.

Our homeland is dying. It is groaning under the horror of the debris and the force of hatred. It is calling on us to wipe from its face the dust of death and destruction and to remove from its people the veil of an unending night of oppression and darkness.

Gentlemen, dear ones, sons of Lebanon, Lebanon's night has continued for too long; the tragedy has continued in it, and the plot has affected all the areas, struck all the communities, and hit the various families. It afflicted all of us through sacrifices and victims and — although it is the least of the harm — through the destruction of property and of the harvest of the ages. It has robbed our homeland of happiness and taken from each of us a brother, a child, a dear one, a relative, a colleague, or a friend. We have equally suffered injustice, oppression, displacement, and poverty. Perhaps we will equally enjoy justice, security, comfort, and prosperity in the future. Injustices have been committed from every direction and in every direction. What is painful and strange is that our homeland's tragedy, in many of its phases, experienced the conflict of right against right, dignity against dignity, and faith against faith. What is more painful is that the courageous strugglers, innocent believers, and honest free men — all of whom are our brothers and sons from all the communities — have confronted and fought each other, have fallen and have been martyred in this tragic battle on all fronts and for various causes.

While we do not specify the reasons for the calamities that befell us and the schemes that have been hatched and are being hatched against us abroad, we, at the same time, are not so naive as to think that the conflict over our internal affairs alone can explain or justify Lebanon's tragedy.

Dear ones, leaders, we are all vanquished. The only victors are the plot and the tragedy. We all share in what happened to us. If there is someone among us without a fault or sin, let him cast the first stone or accuse the others. Faults and sins are not confined to one person among us, and none of us can monopolize the truth and right. Only those who did not work or struggle are those who did not sin, and only those who were satisfied with placing heavy burdens on others without becoming involved did not fall into sin.

Gentlemen, we are meeting today in the hope of Lebanon's resurrection. This conference is being convened for the sake of its salvation. It is true that Lebanon suffered in human and financial terms, but its spirit remained impregnable and stronger than death. In this sense, Lebanon did not vanish; it exists and will exist forever as a living soul in us. It has survived through the unity of the constitutional institutions, foremost of them the Chamber of Deputies — its speaker and members. They preserved the trust and safeguarded democracy. It has also survived through the unity of the regime — the president and the government. They faced the pressures and overcame the challenges. It has also survived, of course, through the unity of the people — the valiant people — who have remained stronger than the plot and the tragedy.

It is true that the ordeal of our homeland is great and the conspiracy against it is enormous, but our determination to face it is greater and our resolve to save the country is stronger. Plights and tragedies become insignificant in the face of determined people.

O beloved, all of us are responsible for this salvation and are interested in it. All of us are called upon to respond to the hopes of the Lebanese for unity, security, and sovereignty. I do not have a bigger stake in Lebanon than you have — neither in its past nor in its present and future. I do not claim that I have represented or that I represent more than what you represent; and I do not claim that I have worked, sacrificed, or risked for Lebanon more than what you have worked, sacrificed, or risked. I will not be asked to account for its fate and its liberation before God, the homeland, and the generations any more than any one of you will have to do.

It was fate or the will of the Lebanese people as expressed in the

vote of the mother institution [the Chamber of Deputies] that I was elected to the presidency. This does not increase my responsibility over yours, but it increases the burden; it does not increase the sacrifice, but it increases the authority.

Gentlemen, in my opinion, what we will mostly be left with, or what we must be left with after this long night are some lessons and facts that should remain as beacons guiding us on the road to the future.

Dear ones, in my opinion, what we will mostly be left with or what we must be left with after this long night are some lessons and facts: Lebanon cannot survive except through the absolute loyalty of the Lebanese to Lebanon. Lebanon will not have unity unless it is protected by a strong and capable state. A strong and capable state cannot exist unless its principles and institutions are based on justice, and unless its strength and authority stem from the people's will.

The rights of communities, despite their urgency and importance, must not take precedence over the rights of the individual and the homeland in Lebanon. The rights of the communities and their limits end when it comes to the rights of man and the homeland. Deprivation is not restricted to a community or an area, nor is it the responsibility of an authority, a president, a leader, a faction, a party, or a community to the exclusion of the rest of the authorities, presidents, leaders, factions, parties, and communities. Problems have accumulated and exacerbated since the emergence of the state, and they have been handed down to us in our present time. The duty of remedying and resolving them should not be restricted to an individual or a regime, however high his or its standing. The solution of these problems can be achieved through the concerted efforts of the good and peaceful people, and through the will of progress and justice.

We cannot accept that Lebanon should be isolated in matters of peace and fate from its environment and brothers. Likewise, and by the same token, we cannot accept that a person, a group, a party, an area, or a community should separately decide Lebanon's character and future.

Just as we refuse to have the conflicts and burdens of others thrown at us, we must not keep throwing the burdens of our conflicts and issues on our brothers and the world. If Lebanon continues to burn, the fire will not be confined to it, and nothing will be left of it for us to unite, tear apart, partition, or share. Unless the Lebanese fire is extinguished now and before it is too late, only God knows what extent it will reach and what dangers it will bring to the area and to the world.

Dear ones, leaders, our conference is an opportunity that may not repeat itself to get Lebanon, the region, and the world out of this dangerous crisis and dark tunnel. It is an opportunity on the horizon that may not recur. Let us seize this opportunity before it becomes a lump in our throat, a mirage in our lives, and a memory in our homeland's history.

This is my message to you. I place it before you together with the principles and documents for salvation, hoping they will shed a light on the path and open the door to salvation.

May God guide our steps, grant us success in our efforts, unite our ranks, and show us the right path and way to save Lebanon. May you live long, and long live Lebanon. [applause]

Karami, Birri on Speech

NC 312203 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Telephone dispatch by unidentified Information Ministry mission correspondent from Inter-Continental Hotel in Geneva — live]

[Text] The Information Ministry mission at the National Dialogue Conference in Geneva greets you again from the Inter-Continental Hotel in Geneva. A short time ago we met with [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami, who had been meeting with [former] Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam. Prime Minister Karami made a statement commenting on the speech President al-Jumayyil delivered at the opening session of the National Dialogue Conference. Prime Minister Karami said:

[Begin recording] [Karami] The proverb says: Accomplishments are not achieved by words but by deeds. Therefore, we can no longer take words for granted until we see what their results are, because after all the experiences we have had, we often found out that what had been said was not observed when it came to implementation and application. Therefore, I can express an opinion about the conference and its results only at the end of the work and discussions, and after the achievement — God willing — of the required solutions to the issues put forward. Until then there is no room for interpretations. Indeed, the deeds and what will be agreed upon will be the answer — the only answer.

[Unidentified reporter] Another question, Mr Prime Minister. Do you believe that the conference will achieve results commensurate with the Lebanese people's aspirations and with what they expect from the conferees?

[Karami] This is what we hope for, because if what is currently being rumored — that concessions will be made — is true, however important these concessions are, they are much less than Lebanon's salvation from its present destructive hemorrhage. [end recording]

Lawyer Nabih Birri, leader of the Amal Movement, also made a statement in which he assessed the president's speech. He told our mission:

[Begin recording] [Birri] Of course, as you know, the session was an opening one. It is impossible to objectively judge this session, because it was just the beginning and characterized by emotionalism, as manifested through President Amin al-Jumayyil's speech and through the Swiss president's speech. However, what draws attention is the fact that President Amin al-Jumayyil's speech tried to justify the deprivation in Lebanon by saying that it is not confined to a community or an area, and that this regime is not responsible for this, but that it is the responsibility of the successive regimes. This is true, but it does not cancel the responsibility of the regimes and of those who assumed responsi-

bility and placed the deprived ones outside the political balance. This has led Lebanon to what it is in today. We all know how the budget provided millions to some areas and cut other areas, such as 'Akkar, the south, Al-Biqa', and the [Beirut] southern suburbs.

The previous regimes' responsibility cancels neither the present regime's responsibility nor the continuity that continued to exist within a certain group that dominated the fate and destiny of the country and the people. This remark should be made, because the attention of all observers was drawn to his excellency the president's reference to the Amal Movement and to the deprived people's movement in his speech, and the reference was clear and unambiguous.

One more remark is that although the speech was characterized by emotion, it did not mention the occupied south and the presence of the Israeli forces in it. It also did not refer to the agreement, although it is known that the door to Lebanese reconciliation is the south. We are not here, actually, to discuss the subject of the southern suburb, of the mountain, or of any area in Lebanon. We are not here to restore the southern suburb to Lebanon. It is part of Lebanon and in Lebanon. We are here to restore the south. Let the reconciliation be over the south, and in this we can save Lebanon. [end recording]

Anyhow, these remarks will not affect the dialogue process. Tomorrow at 1000, as we know, the closed sessions will begin. We hope the dialogue will be serious, and through goodwill — as it became clear in the speech — we hope to reach safety, God willing.

Before we conclude our dispatch, we point out that President al-Jumayyil, a short time ago, contacted by telephone Chamber of Deputies Speaker Kamil al-As'ad and Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan. He briefed them on the atmosphere that prevailed during the first session of the National Dialogue Conference, and on the preparations for the session that will be held tomorrow and that will continue until the Dialogue Conference achieves the desired results.

Leaders, Observers in Attendance

JN311955 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Geneva — The Lebanese National Dialogue Conference was opened in Geneva this evening in the presence of Swiss President Pierre Aubert. The conference includes the pillars of the dialogue body comprising Messers Amin al-Jumayyil, Sulayman Franjiyah, Rashid Karami, Camille Sham'un, Nabih Birri, Walid Junblatt, Sa'ib Salam, 'Adil 'Usayran, and Pierre al-Jumayyil.

Present at the conference as observers are Syria's representative 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; and Saudi representative Muhammad Mas'ud, Saudi minister of state.

Closed Session 1 November

NC011040 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0935 GMT 1 Nov 83

[Dispatch by Information Ministry Mission in Geneva — live]

[Text] At 1030 Geneva time the second session of the National Dialogue Conference opened at the 18th floor of the Inter-Continental Motel in Geneva. The session, which is a closed one, is chaired by President Amin al-Jumayyil and is attended by former Presidents Camille Sham'un and Sulayman Franjiyah, former Speaker 'Adil 'Usayran, former Prime Ministers Sa'ib Salam and Rashid Karami, Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil, Nabih Birri, Walid Junblatt, Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Saudi Minister of State Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud, and members of their delegations.

The session opened, as we have learned, with a brief speech by President al-Jumayyil. Saudi Minister of State Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud will be the next speaker.

The session is in fact the practical beginning of the Dialogue Conference. The conferees are expected to discuss the agenda, which had been drafted by the Preparatory Committee which convened in Beirut 2 weeks ago. The question of Lebanon's identity is the first subject on the agenda, as we have learned from well-informed sources, so that a formula agreed upon by all parties may be reached. The same sources say that there are no basic differences over this subject. The other point is that of the Israeli occupation, which is one of the most delicate and sensitive issues because it leads to discussion of the 17 May Lebanese-Israeli accord.

As we have learned, the National Salvation Front leaders, including Syria, will call for the abolition of the accord while other parties view the accord as one of the most effective means for Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon.

In any case, observers believe that today's session is of utmost importance as it may determine the course of the conference, particularly if the 17 May accord question is put up for discussion.

Salam, Sham'un Comment Before Opening Session

NC311431 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1306 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Telephone dispatch from Information Ministry mission in Geneva — recorded]

[Text] The Information Ministry mission greets you from Geneva where it will be following the National Dialogue Conference meetings which are expected to start at 1700 Geneva time, 1800 Beirut time.

A meeting that was held between [former] President Camille Sham'un and [former] Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam ended a short time ago. Both Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam and President Sham'un then spoke to journalists. The following dialogue took place:

[Begin recording] [Salam] Since my arrival in Geneva, I have been seeking to meet with all the colleagues who will participate in the Dialogue Conference. I believe that this is necessary, and a duty, and that it is beneficial.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Prime Minister, during your meetings with all parties, none excepted, did you feel that there is readiness to start the meeting with good will?

[Salam] It is strange that the weather in Geneva is very good today and the sun is shining. Therefore, we hope for the best.

[Reporter addressing Sham'un] Mr President: You met with Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam within the context of the current contacts. Can you tell us what [words indistinct]?

[Sham'un] [words indistinct] I have observed that there are many matters [?that necessitated] an exchange of views between Mr Sa'ib Salam and myself. We hope that sound [word indistinct] will prevail at the Dialogue Conference because we will then be able to achieve positive results.

[Reporter] Does Your Excellency have any information that specific subjects will be raised at the outset of the dialogue, such as the subject of the annulment of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, and will this be an encouraging indicator for starting the dialogue?

[Sham'un] Naturally, the question of the 17 May agreement will be put forward for discussion. Will it be raised at the beginning of the agenda or at the end of the agenda? I believe that it should be a point at the end of the agenda by which time we would have progressed in the discussions that could produce positive results. After that, we would (?discuss) the agreement. We might reach an agreement on it, but if no agreement is reached the subject could be postponed [words indistinct].

[Reporter] Mr President, it has been reiterated that you are going to propose that the Lebanese-Israeli agreement be put before an Arab summit conference so that the Arabs will collectively bear the responsibility of this matter. Is this true?

[Sham'un] I think that if it becomes difficult to achieve an agreement during this meeting, I will propose to the conferees that a government of national unity be formed [words indistinct] the government ask for an Arab summit meeting to which [word indistinct] will be referred. The first matter is the question of the [Lebanese-Israeli] agreement and the second matter is the withdrawal of the Syrian and Palestinian forces, that is, all the foreign forces, from Lebanese territory.

[Reporter] Mr President, you had earlier called for opening a direct Lebanese-Syrian dialogue. [Syrian Foreign] Minister Khaddam is now here. Will you meet with Minister Khaddam and raise this subject with him?

[Sham'un] I do not believe that the time is opportune. My proposal was for a meeting between two governments — between the Lebanese and the Syrian Governments — and not between two persons.

[Reporter] Mr President: Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens has given some sort of warning, in a sense, that the 17 May agreement should not be jeopardized because it is the only way to rescue Lebanon.

[Sham'un] Brother, we are confused, baffled, bewildered, and perplexed. The Israelis are threatening us, the Syrians are threatening us, and the Americans are threatening to withdraw. However, whatever the [words indistinct], I do not fear any of these threats; and we will go forward with what will achieve the interest of the homeland, according to our conscience. [end recording]

Those were the statements made by President Camille Sham'un and Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam after their meeting in Geneva this afternoon.

Khaddam, Saudi Envoy Meet in Geneva 30 Oct

JN311333 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Geneva — 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met in Geneva last night with Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud, Saudi envoy to the Lebanese National Dialogue Conference. During the meeting, they discussed the methods that must be followed to achieve the results expected from the convening of the Dialogue Conference.

Former Minister Reportedly Met Israeli Official

NC301950 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Dispatch by Voice of Lebanon correspondent in Geneva — recorded]

[Excerpt] The Voice of Lebanon has learned from diplomatic sources in Geneva that former Minister Marwan Hamada has met with the Israeli-Lebanese liaison officer Uri Lubrani in Geneva. Lubrani is a member of the Israeli delegation. It has been learned that the discussions during the meeting centered on the 17 May agreement and that Lubrani warned against the cancellation of the agreement.

Spokesman Suggests Focus for Geneva Conference

LD301223 Kuwait KUNA in English 1042 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Beirut, Oct 30 (KUNA) — The Israeli-Lebanese agreement on May 17, 1983 was the immediate reason for the outbreak of the latest bout of fighting in Lebanon and should thus be the focus of discussions at the Lebanese national reconciliation conference due to open in Geneva Monday, deputy speaker of the Lebanese parliament Munir Abu Fadil said Sunday.

In a statement to KUNA, Abu Fadil, who was re-elected to his post earlier this month, said it was essential to repeal or otherwise find a way out of the unratified and unimplemented agreement, which was signed between the Israeli and Lebanese Governments despite widespread local opposition.

In his statement, the Lebanese parliamentarian pointed out that the agreement runs counter to repeated universally-accepted U.N. resolutions calling for an unconditional Israeli withdrawal from the country, constitutes a violation of Lebanese sovereignty, and was the main reason for the flare-up of civil warfare between pro and anti government forces.

The agreement also ran counter to pledges given by President Amin al-Jumayyil last April, and a recommendation by the Lebanese parliament calling on Al-Jumayyil not to compromise on the issue of unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces from the country, Abu Fadil continued.

Stressing his firm opposition to the accord, Abu Fadil added that while it did not constitute a separate item on the agenda of the talks, it was imperative for negotiators to "calmly" find a way out of the ill-advised agreement.

Al-Jumayyil: Lebanon Views Marines as 'Martyrs'

NC301755 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] We have just received the following report:

In an article published by *The Washington Post*, President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil said that the U.S. Marines who were martyred on Lebanese soil had not been fighting on behalf of Lebanon, but were martyred while helping Lebanon to regain its peace and stability and that Lebanon regards them as martyrs. President al-Jumayyil said that Lebanon is seeking to achieve accord but was surprised by foreign plans assassinating [taghtal] the accord before it began. President al-Jumayyil emphasized his resolve to achieve accord among the Lebanese.

Defense Minister Interviewed on Beirut Explosions

JN2821138 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1750 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Interview with Lebanese Defense Minister 'Isam Khuri by Antoine Nawfal, Radio Monte Carlo news director in Paris, date not specified — recorded]

[Text] [Nawfal] Your Excellency, your visit to Paris was scheduled before the tragedy that has befallen the French and U.S. soldiers in Beirut. Following your arrival, the schedule of your visit changed; you met with French Defense Minister Charles Hernu and you were the guest of a television program devoted to Lebanon. First, what is the objective of your visit? Then, we will discuss what took place in Beirut and what will take place in Geneva.

[Khuri] My visit to Paris was to head the Lebanese delegation to the 22d session of the UNESCO General Assembly. We believe that Lebanon's attendance at such a meeting is necessary in order to express Lebanon's faith in this organization and to demonstrate that Lebanon continues to be a country where freedom, science, and intellect are exercised. However, in the wake of the vile crime in which hundreds were killed last Sunday, I found it more appropriate to postpone my visit for several days. I exerted the necessary efforts to deal with this tragedy. I met with French Defense Minister Charles Hernu and French President Francois Mitterrand in Beirut.

When I arrived in Paris, it was my duty to visit Minister Hernu in order to express once again the Lebanese condolences for the French forces' martyrs and to put the French minister in the picture concerning the investigations the Lebanese authorities have begun in the wake of the incident. This meeting was also an opportunity to hold consultations on more measures and steps which should be adopted to ensure that the Multinational Force's actions in Lebanon will proceed well. My meeting with Hernu took place before the meeting held by the foreign ministers of the countries that are participating in the Multinational Force. We held preliminary talks about this meeting.

[Nawfal] We would like you to give us an idea about your talks with Minister Hernu on the current investigations and what they have achieved.

[Khuri] We agreed that the magnitude of the crime indicates the extent of hatred harbored by those who perpetrated and planned this crime. It was evident that besides being directed against the French and U.S. soldiers, this crime also had as its target their mission of peace in Lebanon, as well as democracy and the values of freedom these forces embody and for which the free world and Lebanon are working. Therefore, the first objective of this crime is to weaken the morale of the Multinational Force and pressure it to leave.

[Nawfal] Your Excellency, do you believe that the role of the Multinational Force will be changed in terms of quality, quantity, and distribution in light of the resolutions the foreign ministers of the countries participating in the Multinational Force made during their meeting in Paris?

[Khuri] Before answering this question, I would like to say something more about the motives of this crime. The method with which it was carried out and the scientific means used rule out any role by individuals in this crime; the responsibility for this crime must be shouldered by parties on a level above that of individuals.

[Nawfal, interrupting] Then the accusation is levelled against a country?

[Khuri] This is what I have sensed from the French defense minister. This is no longer a secret, and many French and U.S. officials have made statements in this direction.

[Nawfal] Let us now talk about the role of the Multinational Force in light of what happened and in light of the meeting of the foreign ministers [from countries] participating in the Multinational Force. Do you believe these forces will witness changes in quality, quantity, and perhaps, give them new prerogatives or deploy them in a different manner?

[Khuri] First of all, any objection to the presence of the Multinational Force in Lebanon and any stand calling for its withdrawal or reducing its role is, in my opinion, a negation or a disavowal of the importance of these forces' role in Lebanon. I would like

to stress that these forces' mission goes beyond saving Lebanon from what it is suffering and beyond protecting it. This mission is also bigger than a local peace mission. They assume a worldwide peace mission for both regional and international peace, for preserving sublime values such as justice, freedom, democracy, and peace. The odious crime against the French and U.S. soldiers in peacekeeping forces in Lebanon is additional proof of the dimensions of the international struggle taking place on Lebanese territory. I would like to explain that the presence of these forces must not be viewed in terms of their number, but must be assessed in accordance with what they symbolize — the determination of friendly countries belonging to the free world to act for the protection and the preservation of democracy and the values of peace.

These facts were recently reiterated by more than one official in the countries participating in these forces. For example, President Reagan has said that the Western world's credibility is facing a test: if Lebanon falls under the onslaught of the forces that are tyrannizing it, then security in the entire Middle East will be threatened. French Prime Minister Mauroy also stressed this fact in the statement he made at the National Assembly 2 days ago. He said that the price that will be paid will be a prohibitive one, but Lebanon's existence is instrumental in establishing a just and lasting peace in the Middle East; the price Lebanon's friends and allies will pay is invaluable. I thank them for their support and for having dissipated the doubts on the nature of the events in Lebanon that some parties are trying to depict as a civil war, forgetting the international aspect of this war, the war of others on our land.

[Nawfal] Your Excellency, we spoke about the role of the Multinational Force. Would you give us an idea about what the new relationship between these forces and the Lebanese Army could be. How do you envisage the future of this relationship? Will it develop, will the soldiers of the Multinational Force carry out joint actions with the Lebanese Army?

[Khuri] Despite the fact that we desire and need these forces to continue their mission as peacekeeping forces, I would like to stress our conviction that the responsibility for safeguarding our security and imposing the state's sovereignty is primarily our responsibility before it is our friends' responsibility. We realize that the Lebanese Army is the backbone of all the state's institutions. That's why we have devoted our efforts to this Army. We rebuilt it in 1 year, taking into consideration the consolidation of its unity and stressing the quality in terms of training and preparation. I believe that the results are successful, because this Lebanese Army has demonstrated on more than one occasion that it is qualified, well-trained, and — more important than all of this — that its members are united. This has been ascertained by more than one military expert.

However, the Multinational Force is present. The Foreign Ministries of the countries participating in these forces have shown in their meeting that they will keep these forces in Lebanon. In answer to your question on the extent of coordination between the Lebanese Army and the peacekeeping forces, I should like here to stress that we have spared no efforts in the past to coordinate between the Lebanese Army and these forces that are operating in Lebanon. I say this frankly. We never refused any demand these forces made that might facilitate their mission and increase their effectiveness. I am in a position to say that we will not spare any effort or means that will lead to more coordination and to more effectiveness for these forces.

However, allow me to say something about these forces. No force can maintain its effectiveness, even if its mission is a mission of peace, unless it demonstrates its strength when needed through tangible acts, particularly against the forces that are working and seeking to hamper the mission these forces have. We are waiting to see what measures of coordination the countries participating in this Multinational Force will ask for concerning cooperation with the Lebanese Army, so that we can adopt positive stands on them.

[Nawfal] We do not know what impact the Beirut crime will have on the National Dialogue Conference in Geneva. However, the Geneva conference may be affected, or has already been affected before its convocation. It is true that the crime did not obstruct the convocation of the conference, but that it may affect it?

[Khuri] We are going to the dialogue, and to Geneva in particular. Though it is fierce and barbaric, the Sunday crime, has not succeeded in obstructing it, just as the many obstacles and the impossible conditions in the past failed to prevent its convocation. The determination of the Lebanese authorities, particularly Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil, president of the republic, is firm in this respect. Everyone knows how much he has called for this conference. Everyone also knows the many sacrifices and the many concessions that were offered for this purpose. The Lebanese regime has agreed to hold the conference any place, even outside Lebanon. In my opinion, the Sunday tragedy has hastened this dialogue, because many parties both inside and outside the Lebanese arena now have an interest in holding this dialogue and in coming away from it with positive results.

Since we are talking about the dialogue, I want to underline a very significant issue in reply to those talking about the fragmentation and division of the Lebanese and to those talking in a spiteful tone about this country's failure to rise up and continue living. All those people ignore a firm and clear fact or, actually, facts.

Allow me, Antoine, to list these facts as follows: On the one hand, our land is occupied by alien armies and armed forces. The presence of these forces and armies, their conflicts, and the conflicts of those standing behind them are being carried out by Lebanese groups influenced by different factors that deprive these Lebanese groups of their free decisionmaking and free dialogue. They also ignore the fact that the people of any occupied land are subjected to divisions and bloody confrontation. It is not suitable to give examples for that. We may just recall as an example the condition of France following the German occupation and the establishment of the Vichy government alongside the De Gaulle government. Furthermore, we are a democratic country. Thus, it is not surprising to have numerous trends and parties. We reject one party rule. I also want to stress that the struggle to achieve dialogue does not mean that the Lebanese people are permanently divided. This dialogue does not dismiss the existing unity of the majority of our people, particularly in areas liberated from the occupation of foreign forces. I

also add that the main objective of the dialogue is to try to reach a consensus stressing that promoting the people's unity is an efficient method for withdrawing the occupation alien forces from the homeland.

[Nawfal] Your Excellency, we all hope that this dialogue succeeds. However, what would happen if the dialogue fails?

[Khuri] The results cannot be seen. Yet, I want to tell those looking forward to and wagering on this dialogue that this dialogue is one of many ways to rescue the country. This dialogue is one method chosen by the regime to go ahead with the rescue march. Should this dialogue fail, God forbid, an overwhelming majority of the Lebanese will remain united, sharing numerous common denominators.

The Chamber of Deputies, through which three presidents of the republic were elected during the war, will continue to represent the overwhelming majority of the Lebanese and continue to represent one part of the people's unity. The people's unity is also represented in the solidarity and unity of the Lebanese Army. An overwhelming majority of the Lebanese are standing behind our Army.

We hope, we insist, and we will work to secure the success of this dialogue. Should this dialogue fail to fulfill our aspirations, we will resort to other methods and means in order to further entrench the people's unity and to increase the existing majority until we achieve the main and primary objective: the withdrawal of all occupation forces from Lebanon in order to preserve the sovereignty, independence, and unity of its people and institutions.

[Nawfal] Thank you, Mr Minister, for taking part in this episode of "It Happened Tomorrow."

Grenade Thrown at B'abda Turkish Embassy 29 Oct

NC290823 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] A man threw a handgrenade at the Turkish Embassy in B'abda at around 1000 today. The information did not report any casualties. Meanwhile, the perpetrator was arrested, and it has transpired that he is an Armenian.

Armenian Suspect Detained

NC290836 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0818 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Dispatch by unidentified reporter from Voice of Lebanon editorial room — live]

[Text] Regarding the handgrenade that was hurled at the Turkish Embassy in the Al-'Adliyah area of B'abda, it has transpired that the perpetrator is a member of the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia named Michel Sarkis Tanalian and that he is 20 years old.

The initial information given by the perpetrator, who has been detained by the Internal Security Forces, indicates that he hurled the grenade and followed it by bursts of fire from a Kalashnikov machinegun. He is still being interrogated. We will provide you with more details as soon as we received them.

AFP: ASALA Claims Attack

NC290936 Paris AFP in English 0934 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Soon after the attack, an anonymous phone caller to the AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE bureau here said the attack was carried out by ASALA, the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia.

Second Embassy Assailant Escapes

NC291017 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1003 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] The investigations conducted with Michel Sarkis Tanarian, who attacked the Turkish Embassy in B'abda with one of his companions at 0940 this morning, revealed that he threw two bombs at the embassy; one bomb exploded. He immediately surrendered after memebers of the embassy security's organ surrounded him. After hurling the two grenades, the assasilant opened bursts of fire from a Kalashnikov. A second person who was with the assailant fled in a Mazda car.

Immediately after the incident, Khalid Hammud, assistant prosecutor general of Jabal Lubnan, arrived at the embassy's building. He met with the Turkish ambassador. He then began the judicial investigation.

Communist Party Denounces U.S. Grenada Invasion

NC311033 Beirut As-Safir in Arabic 29 Oct 83 p 3

[Text] The Lebanese Communist Party Politburo has held a meeting after which it issued a statement saying that it discussed "the serious international, Arab, and local dimensions of the invasion carried out by the U.S. Administration against a small independent state, namely, Grenada," and emphasized the following "stances and fears:"

1. This invasion reaffirms the aggressive imperialist nature in the world, particularly that of U.S. imperialism. No false democratic mask can cover that up, or conceal the fact that it threatens not only the sovereignty and territory of a recognized independent state, but also threatens world peace. The invasion of Grenada, in the shameless and provocative way it was carried out, is in fact to complement the policy of making the international situation tense to the maximum extent. This policy, which has been adopted by President Ronald Reagan's administration, gives priority to the interests of those in the U.S. war industry at the expense of the right of peoples in the world to live in security and peace.

2. The invasion came within the framework of a continuous hostile policy adopted by the U.S. Administration to deprive the people of Latin American states of their right to select their leaderships and their way of life and relations. This policy

centered its plotting primarily on Socialist Cuba which is the first bastion of freedom in the American Continent. This policy became increasingly more hostile as the Latin American peoples' struggle for freedom increased, particularly in victorious Nicaragua, in El Salvador where people are struggling for deliverance from the Americans and their agents, and in other countries of the continent.

3. This invasion came within the framework of U.S. policy of strength, the interpretation of the formation of the intervention forces in many areas of the world, the policy of aggressive alliances, the nuclear missiles deployment, and the military bases. Our Arab area is given an exceptional interest. Washington's leaders did not hesitate to declare this area as being of a vital interest to them, giving themselves the right to intervene militarily whenever they wished — insolently declaring themselves the colonialist world's policeman against the peoples.

4. This intervention took place while the U.S. forces are getting more and more involved in Lebanon's events. Hence, the U.S.military presence in our country implies grave dangers threatening Lebanon's sovereignty and existence.

5. The Lebanese Communist Party joins the voices of all political forces, organizations, and social and democratic bodies in the world which denounced the invasion. It calls on the Americans to immediately take their hands off the stricken island and to leave its people to determine their future.

6. The Lebanese Communist Party conveys greetings to the Cuban people and their revolutionary leadership, particularly President Fidel Castro. The party affirms its soldiarity with the people of Nicaragua in their struggle, and with all peoples of Latin American countries that are threatened by U.S. invasion and aggression and are struggling for independence and freedom.

Damascus Reports Ash-Shar' REUTER Statements
JN311717 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1620 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs, has stressed that Syria is eager to render the Lebanese national accord a success. He described the Geneva conference as a very important opportunity and a first step on the sound course.

The minister stressed the need to cancel the contract of submission. He said: if the Beirut government and the Phalangist Party are genuinely concerned about restoring Lebanon's unity and sovereignty and reaffirming its Arab identity, the cancellation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement which was rejected by the vast majority of the Lebanese people as has been proven by the events of the past months, and the establishment of a national government for dealing with Lebanon's domestic crisis, will constitute the sound introduction for the success of the national dialogue. In an interview with REUTER correspondent Michael Sheridan Ash-Shar' stressed that Syria has always supported Lebanon.

In reply to a question on Syria's withdrawal of its forces from Lebanon, he said that if the Syrian forces had withdrawn after the Israeli invasion, Israel would have succeeded in imposing its hegemony over all of Lebanon and tension would have exacerbated and violence escalated among the Lebanese to the extent that it would have been impossible for them to sit together at a national reconciliation table.

The minister pointed out that the United States committed its biggest mistake in the region when it equated the presence of the Syrian forces in Lebanon with the presence of the invading Israeli forces which may encourage the Zionist enemy not to withdraw and to cling to its occupation of southern Lebanon. The minister added: Our continued presence in Lebanon depends on the needs and aspirations of the Lebanese people and our forces will leave Lebanon only after they become 100 percent sure that the Israelis have unconditionally withdrawn without imposing any restrictions or obtaining any gains.

Ash-Shar' held the United States and its erroneous policy responsible for the two explosions in Beirut on Sunday, 23 October. He added: The fumbling and the mistakes committed by the U.S. Administration in Lebanon are the primary cause for this explosion which the Reagan administration is trying to exploit.

Ash-Shar' added that Washington is preparing for an aggression against Syria, pointing in this respect to President Reagan's statements on 8 and 20 October and his threats that Syria is an obstacle in the face of the U.S. policy.

In reply to another question, the minister of state for foreign affairs warned that the consequences of a U.S.-Israeli aggression against Syria will be very grave, stressing that Syria is strong enough to defend itself. He said: The United States and Israel will not succeed in achieving their objectives. Syria is sufficiently strong to defend itself. The Arab nation and the vast majority of the world countries will support us, because we are not the party which is launching the aggression but the party which is averting aggression and defending the rights and the freedom of its people.

In reply to a question on Syria's support for the convocation of the Arab summit on the date set for it, Ash-Shar' said that Syria will certainly participate in this summit when it convenes. He added: We expect that our Arab stand will become more consolidated in the forthcoming summit.

On what is published now and then on the presence of contacts between Damascus and Cairo, Ash-Shar' denied such contacts. He said that Syria is eager to have Egypt return to the Arab fold and that the only obstacle to the resumption of Syrian-Egyptian relations is the Camp David accords. The minister also denied 'Arafat's recurrent accusations about a Syrian siege on his forces in Tripoli. He said: 'Arafat and his group have not been able to prove, even once, that what they have been repeating in the past months, is true.

Al-'Attar on Lebanon Dialogue, U.S. Attitude
PM311439 Damascus Tishrin in Arabic 24 Oct 83 p 8

[Article by Culture Minister Dr Najah al-'Attar: "Yes to Lebanese National Unity, But How?"]

[Excerpts] Against a background of suspicion, accusations and counteraccusations, it has been decided to hold the national dialogue [on Lebanon] in Geneva. This decision is good in itself, not because of any hope that it may result in full understanding, a common vision, or a unified stand that will save Lebanon, prevent its partition, and ensure the withdrawal first of the Israeli forces and then of all other forces, but because all the warring factions will have to put their cards on the table and be frank.

Syria has announced clearly, leaving no room for doubt, that it supports Lebanon's freedom, sovereignty, and territorial integrity and it supports the unity of the Lebanese people and the struggle for Israeli withdrawal. It believes that UN Security Council Resolutions 508 and 509 form a good basis for this struggle. Israel's involvement in Lebanon has so far cost it $7 billion and, by Israeli accounts, hundreds of casualties. The feelings against it were so intense that Begin himself is now the victim of his own dirty war. All these are favorable factors for the struggle. Add to this the heroic blows dealt by the Lebanese national resistance, Syria's support, and the favorable international situation.

The Phalangist regime has rejected all this and has persisted, and will persit even more, in its gamble on the United States and on Israeli support. It comes to the dialogue relying on certain alliances with the aim of procrastinating, playing for time, and freezing the situation in Lebanon in order to prepare itself more and to serve Reagan's election campaign, hoping that the United states and Israel will have completed preparations for their strike against Syria and worked out some military arrangements that will remove the Syrian obstacle. The Phalangists would then come to the dialogue table and renounce the idea of reconciliation which they had been compelled to accept.

This, of course, is a clever game, but when have the Phalangists, U.S. intelligence, and the Israeli Mossad been lacking in that field? We do not underestimate our enemies, but we do know our own true value and the true value of our Arab people and our

friends, and we have willpower, self-confidence, and a military option. That is why that clever game will be self-defeating. They will discover that we are well aware of their methods and that we have sufficient knowledge of their intentions.

Nobody, especially not the Lebanese nationalist forces and Syria, should overlook the fact that there will be a battle, that the representatives of the Phalangist regime are against dialogue, and that since that dialogue has been imposed on them they will play it as a game while they train and get ready to return to the language of the gun, massacre the forces opposed to the Phalangist regime, the Israeli occupation, and the U.S. presence in Lebanon, and deal a lightning military blow to Syria. They are already making preparations for that blow, as indicated by the actions of the Phalangists, the Lebanese forces, and the factional army on one hand and by the campaign launched by the Washington and Tel Aviv rulers against Syria on the other.

The Phalangists want to be the sole rulers of Lebanon, and they want to rule it through oppression, denial of liberties, and banning of parties. There is no longer any doubt about this. They are making their plans on that basis. In the heart of their small Phalangist state they are now making preparations for expansion and for the control of all Lebanon, and they want to maintain the Israeli presence in the south and a U.S. presence in all Lebanon by means of a direct treaty or a tripartite strategic alliance. The Lebanese rulers believe in gambling on the United States all the way and in having the United States participate in the negotiations even with Syria "because the presence of the U.S. forces in Lebanon is of paramount importance to the United States and the Western world" and because Reagan wants a peace in Lebanon similar to As-Sadat's peace in Egypt. He wants a second Camp David, and he wants to impose his initiative, which is tantamount to liquidation of the Palestinian question. All that has been said about a reassessment of the U.S. policy in the Middle East does not go beyond means, tactics, and alternatives, but the main objectives will remain the same as they have been since the 1982 Israeli invasion. These objectives include turning Lebanon into a U.S. protectorate as a substitute for Iran, using Lebanon as a springboard against Syria and the region, and imposing U.S. hegemony to secure U.S. and Israeli interests.

It is in the context of all this that we should view the two U.S. campaigns of threats and falsification. The first was launched by Reagan in his speech on television, and the second was launched by the State Department spokesman who called on Syria to cooperate by honoring its commitments in Lebanon.

The point is that Syria did not make any commitment to anybody. Its legitimate position in Lebanon and its security requirements dictate a firm and principled stand on it, namely nonwithdrawal before complete and unconditional Isreli withdrawal. What the U.S. State Department's spokesman said, therefore, is a mere falsification such as the U.S. Administration frequently resorts to in order to portray Syria as a country which does not honor its commitments, which, of course, is a false and invalid claim.

As regards Reagan's campaign, it is a taming campaign in one respect and, in another respect, it is meant to pave the way for aggression. Because it coincides with the Lebanese dialogue conference in Geneva, it constitutes a prior indictment reflecting premeditation and an intention to abort the dialogue, blame its failure on Syria, and use that as a pretext for dealing a military blow to Syria.

I excuse President Reagan in view of his acquired habits. As a cowboy actor he got used to seeing people as red Indians and to killing them with trick camerawork. This is a well known psychological complex denoting disregard for the danger of others and for the lives of others.

President Reagan's quixotic attack — which may not be quixotic after all — will not tame, frighten, or intimidate Syria and it will not make Syria budge one inch from its firm position. Syria is not an Indian village, and the Arab homeland is not an Indian concentration on some mountain slope. It is a struggling nation. Imperialist and Zionist campaigns have failed over the past 40 years to harm or destroy its cause.

Whatever the purpose of Reagan's threats, we see nothing new in them. We know that the United States plans to commit aggression against us through Israel or directly. So what more can it do? We are aware of the U.S. power. From our shores we can see its fleets with the naked eye.

There is only one simple thing that we want from Reagan and his administration. We want them to regard us, the Arabs, and other nations as something other than red Indians. They must realize that we have guns not arrows, missiles not rifles. We are not in the grip of the United States. We are a sovereign state and our territory is shielded by our men and arms, by our great Arab people, our allies and friends and, above all, our unshakable will to return every blow, fight the battle until the end, and sacrifice lives until evil is defeated or we fall as martyrs.

We provoke nobody and will not be provoked by anyone. Reagan knows that the Lebanese conflict is a Lebanese-Lebanese conflict, that we neither contribute to nor cause trouble, that we have no expansionist designs and plans to take over any part of the Arab country, and that we do not want to add additional burdens to Lebanon's economic and international problems. We do, however, work for the withdrawal of the Marines. It is our right to do so and it is also a requirement for the pan-Arab struggle. We want Lebanon to achieve agreement through dialogue, but the United States does not want that, Israel is obstructing dialogue, and the Phalangist regime, emboldened by them, is creating obstacles. All the calamities which Lebanon has suffered and is suffering are the result of Israeli aggression and the invasion with U.S. encouragement and arms. The invasion was carried out with the knowledge and in the interest of the United States, which is now trying to fulfill the objectives of the invasion, which Israel failed to do.

In the face of this tripartite U.S.-Israeli-Phalangist threat, we are arming ourselves not to commit aggression against anyone but to defend ourselves in our capacity as a sovereign state exercising its full sovereign rights to armament and to alliances and friendships. We will certainly not allow any state, however powerful, to undermine these rights and use an imaginary danger as an excuse to commit aggression against us.

There is only one threat in the region. It is the American-Israeli

threat, and the Arabs know it. There is only one power which destroys peace in the region. It is the U.S.-Israeli power of aggression, and the Arabs know it. If Reagan is still unaware of these facts, he would do well to learn them from his advisers, stop regarding nations as small persecuted tribes ready to be slain, and throw away the matchstick lest it sets fire to the world, especially the United States, because if war breaks out in this region it will not be confined to this region, and many powers will bleed, particularly the United States, before Reagan realizes his dream of controlling us, undermining our independence, and plundering our wealth, especially our oil wealth.

U.S., Not Damascus, Abandoned Commitments

JN291638 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1245 GMT 29 Oct 83

[From "On the Events" program]

[Text] In his latest statement, U.S. President Ronald Reagan alleged that Syria has reneged on its commitment to withdraw its forces from Lebanon while Israel is continuing to abide by its commitment to withdraw. The following report deals with this subject:

The U.S. President can say what he likes. He can also interpret events to suit the logic of U.S. policy. However, he cannot impose this or that interpretation on Syria's position in Lebanon or on the Arab region as a whole. President Reagan accuses Syria of having reneged on its commitment to withdraw its forces from Lebanon while stating that Israel is still abiding by its commitments to this effect.

We are not answering President Reagan because we are the accused, but to make certain facts clear. We would like to remind Reagan that the cease-fire that was announced during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and following Philip Habib's visit to Damascus clearly stressed the need for Israel's comprehensive withdrawal from Lebanon. Habib agreed on this and pledged, on behalf of the U.S. Government, to implement this [cease-fire] resolution. What subsequently happened was that Israel continued its invasion until it reached the outskirts of Beirut. Then it was agreed, with U.S. knowledge, that the Palestinian forces would withdraw from Beirut in exchange for the Israeli forces' withdrawal. Israel later entered Beirut and, with its agents' cooperation, committed the Sabra and Shatila masscres within sight and hearing of the United States itself.

The United States not only ignored the two cease-fire resolutions and the agreement on the Israeli forces' withdrawal from Beirut, but also ignored UN Security Council Resolution No 509, which called for the Israeli forces' unconditional withdrawal from Lebanon. It substituted for all of these resolutions the Lebanese-Israeli agreement that was imposed on Lebanon so that Syria would be forced to face a fait accompli and Israel would be absolved of any blame.

In view of all this, in view of the United States' clear abandonment of its commitments and promises, and because the Israeli- Lebanese agreement granted the United States and Israel everything they wanted and imposed on Lebanon restrictions that harm its national interests and harm Arab interests, particularly Syria, Syria naturally rejected this agreement and adhered to its legitimate presence in Lebanon, which is an Arab country. This is because the United States clearly reneged on its commitments and promises to withdraw the Israeli forces from Lebanon in accordance with the cease-fire resolution, the UN Security Council resolution, and the agreement on withdrawing the Palestinian forces from Beirut.

This brief review explains the real U.S. position and the role the U.S. Administration played through its envoys in Lebanon in rearranging the situation to suit its plans and projects both in Lebanon and in the region. No matter how Reagan and his aides attempt to interpret the events, the facts speak for themselves. Reagan's accusations against Syria will not change these facts. As for his statement that Israel continues to abide by its promises to withdraw from Lebanon, it will be more suitable to answer him with the statement made yesterday by Moshe Arens, who affirmed that Israel would remain in Lebanon. Israel's practical measures in Lebanon clearly show that it is carrying out these measures in order to stay in southern Lebanon and not to withdraw, as President Reagan alleges. Turning facts upside down and leveling accusations will not harm Syria, because its stands are clear, open, and firm. The attempts to use these Syrian stands as a means of bringing pressure to bear on Syria so that it will submit to U.S. will, projects, and plans in Lebanon and the Arab region will be of no avail.

AL-BA'TH Reiterates Syria's Position on Lebanon

JN010851 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 1 Nov 83

[From the press review]

[Text] In an editorial and under the headline "Syria's Principles in Lebanon are National Lebanese Ones," *Al-Ba'th* says:

Stemming from its pan-Arab responsibility, its desire to preserve a unified Arab Lebanon with full sovereignty over the Lebanese national soil, and its historical relations with fraternal Lebanon, Syria has no choice but to be on the side of those who support the Lebanese national dialogue and those who endeavor to make it a success with all the means available to it. This is because the conference is an important opportunity and a first step in the right direction. This was Syria's position even before the civil war and before our forces entered Lebanon. This Syrian position was maintained after our forces entered Lebanon and stopped the bloodshed, and still remains following the recent events in Lebanon, particularly the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the arrival of the U.S. police force which, together with some NATO forces, landed on the Labense shores. These forces are allied with the aggressors against the Lebanese people's interests under slogans of false peace.

Syria's current support for the Lebanese national dialogue at the Geneva conference is neither an emotional nor a tactical stance; it is based on principles that Syria has always tried to explain. These principles are identical with the Lebanese nationalist stand represented by the National Salvation Front and the Amal Movement. They are also commensurate with the Lebanese interests in terms of restoring sovereignty and liberating the land.

Among these principles is the cancellation of the 17 May agreement between the Lebanese Government and the Zionist enemy and the establishment of a national government to tackle Lebanon's internal crisis. This is because it is unreasonable to suppose that the Lebanese Government and the Phalangist Party can give any evidence of their desire to restore Lebanon's independence, Arabism, and unity under the shadow of this agreement which shackles Lebanon's will and prevents it from taking any initiative to restore Lebanon's Arab role and establish in it the principles of democracy with which Lebanon had been living since its independence.

The Lebanese nationalist forces led by the National Salvation Front and the Amal Movement have made these principles an important test through which the Lebanese Government and the Phalangist Party can prove their desire to make the dialogue a success. In order to reach this position, the Lebanese nationalist forces have sacrificed the blood of the Lebanese struggles in fighting those who wagered on the U.S. big stick and who were allied with the Zionist invasion. These forces will not concede any nationalist demand that might save Lebanon from the strife which has been afflicting it for many years.

Let those who continue to cast doubts on Syria's position rest assured. When Lebanon becomes a unified Arab country, unconditionally free from invasion, there will be no Syrian problem and there will be no need for the Syrian forces to stay on in Lebanon. The Lebanese and the Arabs, who want Lebanon to come back to its Arab group fully sovereign and free from aggression, are well aware of this.

Dailies Score U.S. Statements, Mideast Policy

JN291045 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Press review]

[Text] In an editorial headlined "When Reagan Ignores the Peoples' Era," the newspaper *Ath-Thawrah* writes: In his speech at dawn yesterday, U.S. President Ronald Reagan tried to lash out at the nature of the era being experienced by peoples and national liberation movements, using threatening phrases and returning to the traditional colonialist methods which have completely failed to subjugate the world states and peoples to U.S. domination. He claimed that the Middle East is a U.S. zone and that he will not allow any power whatsoever to change this, contending that the interests of the Western states are concentrated in this region in particular.

Talking about the situation in Lebanon, Reagan theatened that his administration will proceed toward the attainment of its aims there and that it will employ all means for this purpose. U.S. President Reagan did not forget to compare the situation in Grenada in particular, and in Latin American in general, with the situation prevailing in Lebanon and the Middle East in an attempt to threaten the use of force, war fleets, and methods of war and aggression against the entire Arab nation.

These statements and threats affirm that U.S. imperialism has not benefited from the historical lessons and that the U.S. officials are trying to ignore the facts of this era, forgetting or pretending to forget that the era of colonialism and warships and fleets has gone by for good and that it is peoples who now determine their destiny by themselves after taking the initiative and dealing one blow after another to the forces of aggression and imperialism everywhere.

This fact applies more than anything else to the Middle East because this region is the property of its Arab owners. The Arabs, and not the United States or any other world colonialist force, are responsible for this region's destiny, history, and geography. President leader Hafiz al-Asad has said that the U.S. threats, gunboats, and aircraft carriers will never firighten us, but will make us cling to our just, legitimate aims and rights and renew the methods of our national and pan-Arab struggle for the liberation of Arab territories from every colonialist occupation and domination and for the establishment of the components of a comprehensive Arab unity.

In an editorial under the caption "A Quiet Discussion of the Marines' Affair," the newspaper *Tishrin* writes: After the foolish U.S. threats and provocative statements againsnt Syria by a large number of U.S. officials just prior to the destruction of the Marines' headquarters, it is now clear that the United States will persistently ignore the individual, group, organization, or regime which stands behind the operation, even if this is clearly disclosed to it. This is so because the U.S. Administration's premeditated intentions against Syria will dictate the course of investigation and keep it in harmony with the frank U.S. desire to take revenge on Syria.

After reviewing the U.S. role in the region and pointing out those who have an interest in the detonation of the U.S. Marine headquarters in Beirut, the paper adds: Before and after the Marines' operation, and particularly because of it, the United States wanted to consecrate its presence in Lebanon in order to keep the sword of terror drawn against the region in an attempt to scare it and peddle its schemes throught the roar of fleets and aircraft carriers. The United States thus wants to turn the region into a U.S. ranch where the Zionist cowboys can terrorize, break in, and humiliate all the Arabs.

Within this framework any U.S. talk about a Lebanese national dialogue is deceptive and is aimed at robbing dialogue of any contents because more than 50 U.S. and NATO warships will not allow any dialogue to produce the results desired by the Lebanese people. These ships came to assassinate dialogue and hold Syria responsible for that, despite the fact that it was Syria which supported all formulas of democratic dialogue and pressed for a national accord which can be the starting point for the construction of a new Lebanon. Syria has been doing this since the first moment it entered Lebanon over 7 years ago. Syria has paid dearly for its stands and will continue to pay, giving no attention to fleets and threats, until a national accord is achieved on the basis of a comprehensive political and social balance that fulfills the demands of the overwhelming majority of the Lebanese people and agrees with the historical and geographical facts which have been consecrated in Lebanon.

The United States should not imagine that with its fleets, terrorism, and threats it can make Syria deviate from its declared stand

on the Lebanese question with all its well known facts, beginning with the cancellation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement and ending with the complete U.S. and Israeli withdrawal and the fulfillment of all the National Salvation Front's demands — demands which are the only salvation for Lebanon.

If the United States wanted by its invasion of Grenada to be a show of power in order to regain its self-esteem and international prestige and intimidate Syria and the Arabs, it is well aware of the radical differences between Grenada and Syria. It also knows that the experience will not succeed unless identical conditions exist within identical situations. We think that the United States knows very accurately that all the conditions and factors of the experience are not available and that Syria is no longer a field for such tests. It is not possible for Syria to be taken away.

If this political mentality continues to mastermind the mechanism of the U.S. decisionmaking, Reagan will be making another mistake.

Palestine Broadcast Warns Against New Aggression

JN290820 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Palestine broadcast: From "Historical Facts" program]

[Text] Brothers on the path of revolution and liberation. The Zionist MAPAI organ *Al-Anba'* yesterday linked what is taking place in Grenada, Lebanon, and the Arab Gulf together. It also linked the invasion of Grenada to the assassination attempts towhich two Jordanian ambassadors abroad were subjected as well as well as to 'Arafat's allegations in Tripoli, possible U.S.-Jordanian intervention in the Gulf, the Iraq-Iran War, and the blow which was dealt to the Multinational Forces in Beirut. By this linking, the paper tries to say that the United States, its allies, and agents are intending to face Cuba, Syria, Iran, and 'Arafat's opponents inside the PLO on the basis that these parties are the forces which hamper imperialist peace and threaten imperialist-Zionist-reactionary intersts in the world.

What concerns us about linking these developments togehter is trying to understand the Royal Jordanian relationship on the one hand and 'Arafat's relationship on the other with the U.S. peace in the region. Imperialist and Zionist circles say that the assassination attempts to which two Jordanian ambassadors were subjected last week were a reaction to the declaration of the Jordanian regime's role in the Iraq-Iran war on the one hand and its role in serving and participating in the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force in the Arab Gulf on the other. This is in addition to this regime's relationship with 'Arafat. Consequently, these circles are leveling accusations at Syria, Iran, and the Palestinian revolution rebel forces, claiming that these parties are responsible for the assassination attempts. The same method is used to interpret what took place in the commands of the U.S. Marines and French forces in Beirut. These circles have linked the French decision to supply Saddam Husayn with sophisticated planes to fight Iran to the explosions at the French and U.S. commands in Beirut as being a part of the revenge by Iran and its friends from France and the United States.

The objective of this analysis is clear — to justify a joint U.S.-Israeli aggressive action. But if we want to use our imaginations and remember the lessons of the past we will come to the conclusion that linking these separate incidents hides aggressive intentions which seek to directly involve certain Arab parties along with the United States and Israel in an aggressive plan against Syria and Iran or against Lebanon and the Gulf, while claiming to be directed against Syria, Lebanon, and the Palestinian revolution uprising forces. In this new aggressive plan, U.S.-Zionist circles want Jordan, Iraq, and some Arab countries which are loyal to the United States to play certain roles. They also want Yasir 'Arafat to play a role as is seen from their concentration on 'Arafat and the discord in the Palestinian arena. Despite all the tragedies of our people in Lebanon, 'Arafat is still speaking about redrawing the region's map and is actively moving toward the United States, Zionist forces, and the Jordanian regime for the sake of obtaining something from this map. Will he serve the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary alliance with the hope of winning the reward? Will he repeat the historical mistake which Ash-Sharif Husayn made when he trusted Great Britain's promises on granting independence to the Arabs if they supported it against the Ottoman Empire. Although circumstances and facts have changed? Will he repeat his historical mistakes of 1970, 1976, and 1982 and put himself and his group once again on the path which helps the hostile forces to achieve their objectives, foremost of which is undermining the Palestinian people's resistance and liquidating their cause? We hope that he will not repeat his mistakes. Although we believe the saying once bitten twice shy, what shall we say about the person who has been bitten several times without learning and without avoiding the danger which he has been cautioned against?

U.S.-Led Invasion of Grenada Denounced

Mashariqah Criticizes Invasion

JN291457 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1410 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus, 29 Oct (SANA) — Comrade Zuhayr Mashariqah, assistant regional secretary of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, has asserted Syria's support for the Cuban people and the people of the Caribbean region. The comrade chairman of the Syrian-Cuban Friendship Society strongly condemned the U.S. invasion of the island of Grenada, and described that invasion as a colonialist method that aims at subjugating people and occupying others' land at gunpoint.

In a cable he sent to the chairman of Cuban-Syrian Friendship Society, Comrade Mashariqah called for the unconditional withdrawal of the U.S. forces from that island so that its people can continue their progressive method without foreign interference and hegemony.

Ba'th Official Condemns Invasion

JN311538 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1430 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus, 31 Oct (SANA) — Comrade Muhammad Haydar, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command and head of the Foreign Relations Bureau, has condemned the U.S. invasion of Grenada, asserting Syria's solidarity

with the Cuban people and party in their struggle against U.S. imperialist schemes in the Caribbean Sea.

In a cable he sent today to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC], Comrade Haydar praised the heroism of the Grenadian people and the Cuban workers and technicians who have fought courageously and were martyred in confronting forces of tyrannical U.S. imperialist aggression.

As-Sa'iqah Condemns Aggression

JN311640 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus — The Popular Liberation War Vanguards — As-Sa'iqah Forces have announced that the U.S. aggression against the island of Grenada falls within the framework of U.S. military escalation which aims at utilizing the various regions of the world as military bases and bridges to threaten world peace and stability.

In a statement today, As-Sa'iqah strongly condemned the U.S. aggression asserting that peace in the world is one issue and the struggle against imperialist and Zionism is a joint struggle among all peoples.

The statement says that the U.S. aggression against Grenada is linked with the U.S. agression against Lebanon, and U.S. threats against Cuba and Latin American countries are also linked with the U.S. threats against Syria, Lebanon, and the Arab region.

Romanian's Oprea Arrives on Visit 31 October

JN312057 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus — Gheorghe Oprea, first deputy prime minister of the Socialist Republic of Romania, and his delegation arrived in Damascus this afternoon on a visit of several days to Syria.

In a statement to a SANA correspondent, Oprea voiced his delight at visiting Syria. He spoke highly of the Syrian-Romanian relations of friendship and cooperation in all fields, stressing his country's desire to further promote and bolster these relations to serve the interests of the two friendly countries.

Polish Party Delegation Returns Home 31 October

JN311552 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus — The Polish United Workers' Party [PZPR] delegation, headed by Comrade Palimaka, PZPR Information Department director [title as heard], today left for home after a visit of 1 week at the invitation of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command.

During the visit, the Polish delegation held talks with a number of party and government officials to strengthen and bolster cooperation and friendship between both friendly parties and countries.

Arab People's Conference Resumes Meetings 28 October

JN281954 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus — The committees emanating from the permanent secretariat of the Arab People's Conference today discussed a number of working papers dealing with pooling world public opinion against Israel's crimes and the U.S. aggression against Lebanon. The preparator committee for the seminar on freedom and democracy in the Arab homeland is scheduled to convene this evening. The committees are also scheduled to hold an expanded and final session tomorrow evening to approve their work.

Shamir Briefs Knesset Committee on Various Issues

TA311236 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] The Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee today heard a report by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. Our Knesset correspondent, Arye Golan, brings this initial report on the session:

[Golan — live] The prime minister began with a review and told the committee members that the United States has explained to us that the reason the United States did not accept Israel's offer of aid after the attack on the Marines was not political. Israel has been told the move has no political angle or significance, but that the United States is restricted to observing its own procedural regulations in such cases. The prime minister also added that some unofficial remarks could be heard in the United States expressing the desire that Israel increase its involvement in Lebanon, and some people could occasionally be heard expressing dismay with Israel, alleging that it has shut itself inside its own shell and cares only for its own interests. Some people would like us to be more active in Lebanon but, Shamir emphasized, we did not hear this in any official contact and we have no information about any concrete, specific demands [derishot].

Regarding the visit tomorrow of U.S. Under Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger, the prime minister said that this visit had been scheduled a long time ago with the aim of reviewing a host of common bilateral issues, but obviously after the explosion in Beirut a large part of the deliberations will now be devoted to Lebanon. It is not yet known in Israel whether or not the Americans are coming armed with plans, if these had already been adopted by the administration, or whether they would rather consult with us on the measures that should now be employed. Both we and they are interested in cooperation, Yitzhaq Shamir said, in order to maintain an independent Lebanese regime to secure our northern border. All the difficulties notwithstanding, he noted, a Lebanese Army is nevertheless being built, and it is not an insubstantial factor and has proved excellent capability during combat.

Shim'on Peres expressed amazement at the fact that the prime minister refrained from addressing the subject of the establishment of the Jordanian task force which is now a central issue in connection with the U.S. deployment in the region. Peres said: I heard on the radio that in return for the tacit agreement to the establishment of this force, Israel is demanding [doreshet] three things: that U.S. contingency units be established here; that the Lavi issue move ahead; and that there be greater financial aid. Peres expressed regret over the fact that we have already offered ourselves like the lady who had earlier accepted the principle but is now conducting an argument only about the fee. What Israel should tell the United States is that we will not object to the establishment of such a force if Jordan comes and negotiates with us and makes peace with us.

On another subject, Shim'on Peres said that the press had quoted the prime minister as saying that if the Israeli-Lebanese accord is canceled during the Geneva Lebanese reconciliation committee deliberations, the IDF will remain in Lebanon. This is a weird announcement, the Labor Party chairman pointed out, and the prime minister reacted immediately by saying: I have never said this. Shim'on Peres added: In my opinion the accord cannot be canceled, for the simple reason that it does not really exist.

In the course of the session, a furor developed when Yosi Sarid quoted extensively from a London *Times* interview last week with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir on terrorism. There are times when one has to resort to such means, Shamir is quoted as saying. Sarid argued that this constitutes unprecedented support for terrorism. Likud MK's Olmert, Hurvitz, and Yosef Rom shouted back at him: This is a 5-year-old interview. Sarid retorted: Even 5 years ago these statements were never denied. This is digging up the past, the MK's said, and Peres and Bar-Lev demanded that Sarid be permitted to continue his statement.

Opposition to Jordanian Force

TA311840 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Report by Shim'on Feinberg — recorded]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Shamir told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that Israel will be closely watching the Lebanese national reconciliation conference in Geneva and will decide on its course of action according to the results of the talks. Shamir denied reports that Israel intends to indefinitely remain in south Lebanon if the Israel-Lebanon withdrawal agreement is abrogated as Syria and its Lebanese opposition allies are demanding, but he stressed that the withdrawal accord was reached through open negotiations and threats to this being scraped are no small matter.

The prime minister also came out against the proposed Jordanian rapid deployment force, denying reports that Israel was carrying out negotiations with the United States over compensation for withdrawing its opposition. Shamir said Jerusalem would continue to oppose an increase of military strength of any country that is in a state of war with Israel.

Arens, Shamir on Syria

TA311640 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens has said that the Syrian Army has been strengthened because the brutal dictator, Hafiz al-Asad, wants to achieve a strategic balance with Israel. This is in line with his concept of a Greater Syria which would include both Israel and Jordan. The defense minister was replying to MK Yosi Sarid's motion to hold a debate to mark 500 days since the beginning of the Lebanon war.

MK Sarid argued that the government had had a dream about Lebanon and that although this dream had been shattered, it insists on holding onto the pieces by setting a policy based on obsolete assumptions. Sarid, a member of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, said that the Syrian Army had doubled in size and that it currently includes 430,000 soldiers.

Among other things, it comprises 8 divisions — 5 motorized and 3 armored; 30 commando battalions; 3 brigades of surface-to-surface missiles, and Soviet advisers through the lowest unit levels. Sarid added that the Syrian threat is not an empty one as it entails a threat of war by Syria whenever it sees fit, and then we will not believe we brought this upon ourselves through the Lebanon war.

The Syrian threat was also raised at a meeting of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres said that the Soviet involvement in Syria had reached unprecedented dimensions and had led to the stationing of new types of missiles which pose a real security problem. The Syrian force has strengthened while we are cutting our defense budget, Shim'on Peres added.

MK Yosef Rom of the Likud also expressed concern about the Syrian buildup. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir replied that the Syrian buildup was basically nothing new and that we had witnessed in the past the significant buildup of Arab countries. We met these challenges in the past and we will also meet them in the future, he stated. He added that Syria is making a serious mistake if it thinks that our withdrawal to the Al-Awwali River stems from weakness and unwillingness to fight for our survival.

Arens Answers Charges

TA311750 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Report by Hayim Zissowitz from the Knesset — recorded]

[Excerpts] In a long and sharp speech in the Knesset today, Alignment MK Yosi Sarid attacked the government for refusing to give up its dream about Lebanon and refusing to recognize that this dream has been shattered. The government still believes it is possible to form a stable government in Lebanon; it continues to believe in the agreement with Lebanon, which is not worth the paper it is written on, and it acts on the basis of the incorrect assumption that the Syrians can be driven out of Lebanon and that terrorism there can be liquidated, Sarid said. However, in his opinion, the war has produced just the opposite.

Defense Minister Moshe Arens rose to respond and cited remarks by the U.S. President, as well as the minority leader of the U.S. House of Representatives, who expressed understanding for Israel's motives in launching the Peace for Galilee Operation. The IDF's withdrawal from Lebanon today would mean the return of terrorism to the north of our country.

[Arens] We heard a description of the Syrian Army, but MK Sarid forgot to address himself to one thing: He did not speak of the purpose behind the strengthening of the Syrian Army. Why is this huge army being built? If this makes you nervous and restless let me tell you that the IDF is modernizing, that it is training, that the IDF is [word indistinct], in order, first and foremost, to have the capability of deterrence, to be able to deter the Syrian Army.

In my opinion, Mr Speaker, MK Yosi Sarid's remarks have not helped us in this task. I propose that his motion be struck off the agenda.

[Zissowitz] And, indeed, 52 Knesset members supported the defense minister's view, and by a majority of 10 votes the issue was struck off the Knesset's agenda.

Levi Warns Syria

TA010556 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 1 Nov 83

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister David Levi warned Syria that if it makes any move which undermines the conditions that Israel sees as imperative for its security, it will be surprised and pay the full price. He said that the Syrians will not dictate Israel's moves in Lebanon and that the United States should make its intentions in Lebanon clear.

In a meeting in Qiryat Shemona, Minister Levi explained that a superpower sending its soldiers to Lebanon cannot declare that their only duty there is to defend themselves.

UK's Luce Arrives; Improvement in Relations Seen

TA010622 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 1 Nov 83

[Text] Britain's Under Secretary of Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Richard Luce arrived this morning in Israel; in a short while he will meet the prime minister in Jerusalem. Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Me'ir said at the airport that Luce's visit marks the renewal of the political dialogue between Britain and Israel.

Our correspondent Dan Eshel says that it seems that there has been an improvement in the relations between the two countries following changes in the British Foreign Office.

Meeting With Shamir

TA011034 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 1 Nov 83

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said this morning that if the Syrian request to cancel the agreement between Lebanon and Israel is accepted this will prevent the IDF withdrawal from southern Lebanon. This was said in a meeting with British Under Secretary of Foreign Affairs Richard Luce.

Our correspondent Gid'on Remez reports that the prime minister also said that Syria is the real obstacle to an arrangement [hesder] in Lebanon, and it is not the security arrangement in Lebanon or the Golan Heights that concerns Damascus, but the mere existence of Israel. This is so because Israel prevents Al-Asad from realizing his dream of a Greater Syria, which includes, apart from Lebanon and Israel, Jordan as well, which is the under secretary's next stop. Mr Shamir accused Western politicians, in

complimenting Al-Asad and calling him a strong and wise leader, of strengthening his rigidity beyond Soviet support.

As for the Multinational Force, Mr Shamir said that its importance lies in its actual presence in Lebanon; however, it cannot be expected to fight for Lebanon or for Israel, something only the armies of those two countries can do.

He called for the immediate renewal of the autonomy talks with the participation of all sides that can contribute to their success.

Luce Cites Good Relations

TA011252 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1150 GMT 1 Nov 83

[Report by foreign affairs correspondent Gid'on Remez — live]

[Text] The conference in Geneva and the Syrian demand to cancel the Lebanese agreement with Israel did come up in the talks of Under Secretary Luce. On the whole Prime Minister Shamir's statements to British Under Secretary Luce today can be seen as a continuation of a line of Israeli statements in the last few days containing sharp attacks on Syria, on the Syrian demand [derisha] to cancel the agreement, and about Syria's dream regarding Greater Syria.

The British under secretary asked how seriously Israel views the Syrian demand to cancel the agreement. Shamir answered: Very seriously, since what will be left without it in Lebanon is a government controlled by Syria, and our experience with such a government before the war has taught us that no contacts can be made with such a government, no agreement [heskem] or security arrangements can be reached with such a government and, therefore, despite Israel's wish to withdraw this would not be possible. In essence, this means that there will be no Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon if Syria gets its wish. The Israeli-Lebanese agreement is not only important to the security of Israel but is also a symbol for the independence and the strength of Lebanon.

Syria is the obstacle to an arrangement [hesder] and here Shamir added another factor. Not only is the Soviet Union strengthening Syria but also those politicians in the West — and we understand that this means mainly U.S. politicians, whether inside the administration or out of it — who give Al-Asad various compliments, such as his being wise, shrewd and strong are also strengthening it.

Regarding relations between Britain and Israel, when Deputy Foreign Minister Ben-Me'ir and British Under Secretary Luce went out to continue their talks they both spoke of an improvement in the atmosphere of relations and of the beginning of a permanent dialogue — one which Under Secretary Luce said should be normal and routine — between Israel and Britain. These relations, he said, are so good that we can differ in our opinions without insulting one another.

[Begin Luce recording — in English] A natural, healthy, bilateral dialogue in which we can feel free to exchange views on a wide range of issues, as we have today already, on international problems, like East-West relations, on Africa, and on the Middle East. And where we can feel, between each other, that we can say things which we may find are quite frank and on which we don't necessarily agree with each other, but where we can say these things without upsetting each other personally, without wounding each other, because we can do it as friends. [end recording]

And the deputy foreign minister echoes him.

[Begin Ben-Me'ir recording] After a relatively long period when there was no contact at this level — on a ministerial level — there is contact now and I hope it will continue, and we hope it might reach a higher level. And this readiness to hold these talks and this visit is certainly an expression of better relations. [end recording]

Mr Ben-Me'ir was not ready to elaborate on whether this hope for continued relations and visits applies to the level of prime minister.

HA'ARETZ Interviews Pierre Al-Jumayyil in Geneva

TA011035 Tel Aviv Ha'aretz in Hebrew 1 Nov 83 p 1

[Report from Geneva by Re'uven Pdehtzur on an "exclusive interview" in Geneva with Pierre al-Jumayyil: "Pierre al-Jumayyil: Against a Unilateral Israeli Withdrawal" — date not given]

[Text] In an interview with *Ha'aretz*, Pierre al-Jumayyil, the father of the Lebanese president, Amin al-Jumayyil, said the agreement between Lebanon and Israel of 17 May was a means, not an objective. The objective, he said, was the liberation of Lebanon from foreigners.

His aide, Alfred Madi, was more specific: "If we announce that we are not canceling the agreement with Israel, the Syrians will begin to shell us, and you, the Israelis, will not help us. On the other hand, we do not want to cancel the agreement we signed." Pierre al-Jumayyil accused Syria and the PLO of violating the internal balance in Lebanon and causing the current situation, in which "three-quarters of our country has been conquered by foreigners." On the issue of a withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon, the father of the Lebanese president said he was not sure that an Israeli withdrawal would lead to a parallel withdrawal by Syria. "Therefore we are not prepared for a unilateral Israeli withdrawal."

Later on Al-Jumayyil said he was open to changes in the "national charter" upon which the political system in Lebanon has been based since 1943, "but it must be clear that we will not discuss this while rifles are aimed at our heads."

Pierre al-Jumayyil's aide, Alfred Madi, a member of the political bureau of the Kata'ib (the Phalangists' political body) and formerly the representative of the "Lebanese forces in Washington," said: "We need your help. Israel's partial withdrawal is contradictory to the agreement. It was Israel that trained the Druze in the Ash-Shuf hills and so it is to blame for what happened there. On this issue, a commission of inquiry similar to

that set up after the events in Sabra and Shatila must be established in Israel. We are now in an impossible situation. The only way is a clear, firm Israeli stand. To my regret, we do not see such a stand."

IDF Buildings in Lebanon Examined for Safety

TA011056 Tel Aviv Al Hamishmar in Hebrew 1 Nov 83 p 8

[Text] The IDF forces in Lebanon have recently begun a wide-scale examination of all the buildings in which IDF soldiers are staying. The IHM correspondent reports that the examination is being carried out by engineers in cooperation with the Engineering Corps with the aim of checking what risk there is in buildings in which IDF soldiers are staying if an explosive charge is placed in them.

This examination is part of the conclusions of the committee established after the disaster in Tyre and after the latest event in Beirut in which the U.S. Marines were killed. It has been learned that the IDF had previously evacuated several units from buildings in which they were staying when it was determined that they were dangerous. These units were evacuated to prefabricated buildings and even to tents.

The trend in the IDF is to avoid stationing units in tall buildings, or in buildings whose structural engineering is unknown. People in the IDF fear that after the success of the terrorists in Beirut, they will try to work harder and also hit IDF headquarters in similar suicide missions.

It has also been learned that the placement of units in tall buildings throughout Lebanon mainly grew out of economic reasons, but today most of the units that have been staying up to now in tall buildings are to be transferred to prefabricated buildings and even to tents. Most of the examining teams' work is in the towns of Tyre, Sidon, and An-Nabatiyah. That is also where the IDF construction units are doing wide-scale renovation work on all the IDF buildings to prepare them for winter. (IHM)

Border Crossing Reopened at Shi'ite Request

TA010914 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 1 Nov 83

[Text] The IDF reopened the border crossing to Lebanon near Biranit. This crossing was closed about a year ago because of budget problems. However, it has now been decided to reopen it following requests by Shi'ite leaders in southern Lebanon. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht notes that there is a large concentration of Shi'ite settlements in this area.

Eagleburger Seen as Wrong Person for Talks

TA010930 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 1 Nov 83 p 5

[Commentary by Yosef Harif: "Eagleburger — The Right Person?"]

[Text] Recently Defense Minister Moshe Arens has been expressing anger regarding the U.S. Administration. What particularly angers him is the fact that administration leaders, including President Reagan himself, are ready to say things in praise of Israel, while in reality there is an abyss of misunderstandings.

Administration staff can, for instance, say friendly things about Israel, and, at the same time, behind its back, work out some sort of Jordanian deal regarding a deployment force intended to be used, superficially, only for explosive areas in the Persian Gulf, not against Israel. The fact that the United States concealed the very fact of the idea from Israel, knowing its justified sensitivities and fears that such a deployment force — which would be equipped with the best of weapons — could, at least in theory, be turned against Israel under certain circumstances, teaches us that the "coordination" about which Secretary of State Shultz spoke with the ministers of defense and foreign affairs as a vital element in the relations between the two countries is not something real.

The matter of the "Jordanian deployment force" is only one of the examples illustrating the method of ignoring Israel. This method had become more tangible in all of the U.S. moves on the Lebanese problem, both in the military and political spheres.

Superficially, there are signs that Washington now recognizes the mistakes it has made, even if it is difficult for it to admit this openly. It seems that the fact that President Reagan and Secretary of State Shultz are pointing at Syria as the element prepared to foil any arrangement because of its expansionist ambitions (the "Greater Syria" program) and condemning it publicly is the best proof of the fact that Washington has sobered up somewhat as far as Syria is concerned. Has it sobered up completely? That is a question that cannot be answered in definite terms. As always, U.S. policy — unlike that of the Soviet Union — is marked by delusions and a lack of realism. [last word in English]

How naive the U.S. belief was that it was capable of drawing Syria away from the bear's claws, just as it drew Egypt out of its embrace!

Under Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger arrives here today heading a U.S. delegation. The prevalent evaluation is that he has been sent by Secretary of State Shultz for talks mainly to deepen understanding with Israel, and perhaps even to finally attain the much-desired "coordination."

Despite the best will in the world and not wanting to be a "killjoy," it appears to us that Eagleburger is not the right person for talks about genuine coordination. If you wish, his sender, Secretary of Shultz, is not either.

In order to believe that Eagleburger has a chance of leading a positive turn in U.S.-Israeli relations, we must be convinced that he is the man who is capable of answering several basic questions, such as: Why did Secretary of Defense Weinberger turn down the Israeli offer of medical aid for the casualties of the U.S. Marine headquarters in Beirut? Can he honestly answer why Weinberger is prepared to maintain strategic cooperation with Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Jordan, but in fact boycotting Israel? Can he explain convincingly why, on these matters, there is a

surrender to Caspar Weinberger, and Secretary of State Shultz does not have the strength and ability to influence the President?

Washington is currently shocked and embarrassed about recent events and it is suffering painfully, and so — perhaps — this may not be the moment to settle accounts with it. Not about the fact that it made Israel's moves during the Lebanon war more difficult; not about the fact that it undermined the negotiations with Lebanon; not about the fact that it was prepared to achieve rapprochement with Syria at Israel's expense; and not about all of Washington's other deceptions in the area. Not only Israel, but it too is now paying the price for its mistakes.

Can we assume that these basic profound clarifications can be made by a man of Eagleburger's status? With all due respect — respect we have for this important visitor whose friendship for Israel has withstood many tests in the past — it is difficult to answer this question positively.

Israel wants to believe that the United States, which is now getting a taste of "Israeli experiences" the hard way — the need to pay a price for the destruction of the "warlike infrastructure" being established close to its shores and getting itself into a situation in which almost all its friends in the West are condemning it and protesting against it — will from now on do its best to understand Israel's spirit better. Because of the verdict of fate, Israel has, for the most part, if not always, stood alone.

U.S. Rejects Denver as Consulate Site

TA010950 Jerusalem The Jerusalem Post in English 1 Nov 83 p 2

[Report by David Landau]

[Text] Four months after the Cabinet appointed Israel's first consul-general in Denver, Colorado, Israel has learned from the U.S. that it cannot establish a consulate-general there.

The city lies close to sensitive military facilities, and the U.S. Government does not want any foreign missions there.

In the months since the Cabinet decision on June 25, preparations had gone ahead to set up the consular team.

Foreign Ministry sources told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday that the affair was "routine" and "not embarrassing." They said the U.S. had suggested alternative towns nearby as sites for a consulate-general. But Israel has turned those down, apparently because none of them has a sizeable Jewish community.

The sources said the U.S. had indicated it did not particularly object to an Israeli mission in Denver, but it believed that once the precedent was set, other less welcome missions would seek to establish themselves there.

Other sources said Israel had appealed against the initial thumbs-down on Denver from the State Department. But apparently the appeal has now also been turned down.

The erstwhile consul-general designate was Ya'aqov Morris, a veteran diplomat whose previous posting was ambassador to New Zealand.

Morris is now a candidate for the newly-reopened embassy in Liberia. The present ambassador there, Gavri'el Gavri'eli, may have to give up the post for health reasons.

Finance Minister Prohibits Purchase of Dollars

TA010559 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 1 Nov 83

[Text] Israelis have been banned from buying cash dollars and travelers checks as an investment. The ruling, announced last night by Finance Minister Yig'al Kohen-Orgad, was that only $3,000 worth of foreign currency could be bought for traveling purposes and for the purchase of services and goods from abroad. The Treasury says it does not intend to touch PATAM foreign currency accounts [accounts held by Israeli citizens who can only withdraw them in shekels] because it wants to encourage savings. Kohen-Orgad said that interest on PATAM accounts is likely to rise.

The announcement was made following the mass buying of cash dollars. The public yesterday bought an estimated $8 million as the sale of commercial bank shares on the Tel Aviv stock exchange continued. Kohen-Orgad maintained that the use of dollars as a method of preserving the value of savings against inflation is damaging to the economy.

Kohen-Orgad later told The Voice of Israel that the foreign currency ban was temporary and would be lifted when the state of the economy improved.

Arens Gives Figures on W. Bank Sabotage Incidents

TA311532 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Defense Minister Arens has stated that there have been 17 incidents of sabotage against Jewish settlements in Judaea and Samaria over the past 6 and 1/2 years. During that period, there were no sabotage attempts against Jewish settlements in the Gaza Strip. Replying to a question by MK Ge'ula Kohen, the defense minister added that over the past 18 months 260 people were injured in Judaea and Samaria in stone-throwing incidents and one young woman was killed. There were no injuries from stone-throwing incidents in the Gaza Strip.

Jordan Lifts Boycott on W. Bank Civilian Bodies

TA310842 Tel Aviv 'Al Hamishmar in Hebrew 31 Oct 83 P 1

[Report by Pinhas 'Inbari]

[Text] Our correspondent has learned that Jordan has permitted institutions and municipalities in the West Bank to remove the boycott of the civilian administration following feelers by military governors in various districts about the possibility that the

head of the administration, Shlomo Ilia, will visit those municipalities and institutions.

The PLO permitted similar visits before the revolt against 'Arafat, but his status is now unclear because of the Syrian siege of 'Arafat in Tripoli.

At the same time, our correspondent has learned that Jordanian officials who had been dealing with the distribution of Jordanian salaries in the territories are about to resume the orderly transfer of funds from Jordan after a break of more than a year, during which time Israel interfered with Jordanian actions in the West Bank.

It is not clear whether there is a link between these two developments, and, if so, whether they express an improvement in Israeli-Jordanian relations in the territories.

MAPAM, Soviet Delegations Meet in Paris

TA310853 Tel Aviv 'Al Hamishmar in Hebrew 31 Oct 83 p 1

[Report from Paris by Arnon Yafe]

[Text] The Jews from the Soviet Union "are playing both of us for fools. They are asking you to help them get exit visas, and then they are using them to settle in the West. They are not coming to Israel." This is what the chairman of the Soviet delegation to the French Socialist Party's conference, Kosolapov, said at a meeting with a MAPAM delegation.

Avraham (Rozenkir) and Arye Yafe said the Soviet Union would be able to play a role in the peace process in the Middle East only if it renewed diplomatic relations with Israel. Kosolapov answered this by saying: "The Romanians are constantly reminding us of this claim. It would be worthwhile to explain this at every meeting with Soviet leaders."

The MAPAM envoys met with Socialist ministers during the conference and handed over a letter from Victor Shem-Tov to the party's secretary, Lionel Jospin.

Commercial Delegation Leaves for Far East

TA281057 Tel Aviv Yedi'ot Aharonot in Hebrew 28 Oct 83 p 2

[Text] This week an Israeli commercial delegation left for the Far East. The delegation is to visit the Philippines, Thailand, and Burma and will focus its efforts on developing commercial and export ties with businessmen in these countries.

The delegation is composed of 13 producers and exporters dealing with agricultural and industrial products, and it includes representatives of TAHAL, [Israel Water Planning Authority] Koor-Trade, Netafim, Elsint, and Ossem.

This will be the first commercial delegation from Israel to visit Burma.

The Asian Department of the Foreign Trade Authority has reported that exports from Israel to Burma during the first 8 months of 1983 totaled $2 million; exports to Thailand during the same period were $9.7 million; and, to the Philippines, $3.7 million.

The main agricultural products were: chemicals for agriculture, raw cotton, disinfectant materials, irrigation products, and electronics equipment.

Minister Pat To Meet EEC Leaders in Brussels

TA310750 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Minister Gid'on Pat left for Brussels last night for talks with EEC leaders. Among other matters, he will explain to them the basic principles of the new economic policy Finance Minister Yig'al Kohen-Orgad is currently working on and will elaborate on the impact it will have on Israel's imports and exports.

ALGERIA

Bendjedid Addresses National Assembly 31 October

LD010622 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Excerpts] Chadli Bendjedid, president and general secretary of the FLN party of Algeria, this morning delivered a speech on the state of the nation, in accordance with Article 56 of the Constitution, to members of the National People's Assembly. The session was attended by members of the Political Bureau, Central Committee and Government, senior party and state officials, members of the diplomatic corps accredited to Algeria, and representatives of the local and foreign press.

In his speech, the president reviewed the state of the nation in 1983 and some current international issues. Regarding the national development programs, the president said that it has been decided to approve huge programs to deal with the bad effects of the economic crisis currently convulsing the world with increasing severity, especially after the drop in the price of raw materials on which we depend not only to achieve national development but also to import special basic material [words indistinct].

Regarding national issues the president reviewed the most important issues of the hour. He outlined the most important events on the regional sphere and in the building of the Arab Maghreb, about which the president said: The hope of all the peoples of the region is for solidarity, progress, and unity; however, the realization of the great hope is tied to finding a just political solution for the Western Sahara issue.

The president expressed Algeria's hope that the spirit of dialogue would prevail among the brethren in Morocco and the Western Sahara to end this problem according to the OAU and UN resolutions.

Regarding the current situation in the Arab region, the President reiterated Algeria's firm stand on achieving Arab unity and, in light of this, solving the Palestine question, which remains the core of the conflict in the Middle East.

The president also spoke of current issues on the African sphere. He declared Algeria's firm posture calling for the liquidation of colonialism and for confronting all schemes to regain spheres of influence. He added [words indistinct] for freedom and justice remain a firm target of Algeria's foreign policy based on the principles of nonalignment and relentless effort to realize democracy in international relations.

Bendjedid Receives PLO's Salah Khalaf 31 October

LD010955 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] It is to be noted in this section of national news that the head of state received Mr Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], member of the Central Committee of the Fatah Movement, this afternoon.

Communique on President Abdou Diouf's Visit

PM270952 Algiers El Moudjahid in French 18 Oct 83 p 12

[APS report: "A Contribution to the Consolidation and Strengthening of Inter-African Solidarity"]

[Text] Algiers — At the end of Senegalese President Abdou Diouf's official visit to Algeria, a joint communique was issued. The full text of this communique is as follows.

At the invitation of His Excellency Mr Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria and secretary general of the FLN, His Excellency Mr Abdou Diouf, president of the republic of Senegal, accompanied by his wife and a large delegation, paid an official visit to Algeria from 14 through 17 October 1983. During his visit to Algeria President Abdou Diouf visited major Algerian national economic achievements. For instance he visited: The Rouiba industrial vehicles complex, the Arzew liquefied natural gas installations, and the Cheria socialist agricultural village.

Those visits enabled President Abdou Diouf to appreciate the major successes achieved by Algeria under the enlightened and lucid leadership of President Chadli Bendjedid, to whom he conveyed his warmest congratulations.

The two presidents had talks on relations between the two countries and on questions connected with the international situation. On the Senegalese side the talks were attended byForeign Minister Moustapha Niasse; Cheikh Amidou Kane, minister of plan and cooperation; Christian Valentin, deputy acting as general rapporteur for the budget; and Senegalese ambassador to Algeria Dr Matar Ndiaye. On the Algerian side: Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Politburo and foreign minister; Mr Ait-Messaoudene, member of the Central Committee, minister of Light Industry, and co-chairman of the Algerian-Senegalese joint commission; Abdelhamid Brahimi, member of the Central Committee and minister for planning and national development; and Algerian Ambassador to Senegal Rachid Haddad. The talks between the two presidents took place in an atmosphere characterized by great understanding, friendship, and cordiality, in the spirit of the traditional ties of fraternity and cooperation between the Algerian and Senegalese peoples.

A detailed examination was made of relations between the two countries. The two presidents expressed satisfaction at their development and their quality. They agreed to make every effort to raise them to a level of development in keeping with their people's aspirations and the objectives and lines of action laid down by the OAU charter, especially by giving priority to the exploitation of all African potential with a view to the continent's economic and social emancipation.

With regard to cooperation and trade, the two presidents reaffirmed their desire to give a new impetus to Algerian-Senegalese potential and interests. They also agreed to step up contacts at all levels to promote dialogue, consultation, and understanding between the two countries. In this spirit the two presidents examined major current issues on the international political and economic scene.

Turning to the situation in Africa, the two heads of state expressed their common desire to constantly find peaceful solutions to African problems and reaffirmed their determination to strengthen and preserve the OAU — the guarantor of the African states' national independence, the preferential and irreplaceable instrument of the ideals of peace, security, and cooperation on the continent.

They expressed the view that, despite the obstacles which still exist, Africa is constantly winning great victories in the completion of its political independence and toward the achievement of its economic independence. Examining the situation in Southern Africa, the two presidents reaffirmed their active and unswerving solidarity with the fraternal Namibian and South African peoples. They recalled the need for the international community to make every effort to urgently impose the decisions taken in the UN and OAU frameworks for the Namibian people's independence, under the leadership of SWAPO, their sole legitimate representative. In particular, in keeping with Security Council Resolution 532, adopted in May 1983, they demanded the immediate and unconditional implementation of the UN settlement plan contained in Resolution 435 and reiterated their complete rejection of all attempts to link Namibia's independence with the withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola.

The two presidents condemned the attacks launched by South Africa directly or indirectly against the sovereign peoples of Southern Africa, and in particular against Angola, Mozambique, and Lesotho. They reiterated their unswerving support for the struggle which the South African people are waging under the ANC's leadership. With regard to the Chadian question, the two presidents expressed their acute concern at the worsening of that fratricidal conflict. In this connection they reaffirmed the principles and conditions which should promote the restoration of a lasting peace in that country, namely national reconciliation, the cessation of any form of foreign interference, and respect for Chad's national unity, independence, and territorial integrity. Analyzing the situation in Northwest Africa, the two presidents expressed their acute concern at the persistence of the Western Sahara conflict. They stressed the need to fully implement the 19th OAU summit resolution on the question in order to promote a just and lasting solution to the Western Sahara problem.

The two presidents devoted special attention to the Middle East crisis and in this connection they reaffirmed their constant and determined support for the Palestinian people's struggle under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative, for the restoration of their inalienable rights including their right to create a sovereign and independent state.

The two presidents welcomed the results of the Geneva conference on Palestine and stressed that any just and lasting solution to the Middle East problem must be comprehensive and involve the PLO's participation, the Palestinian people's return to their usurped homeland, and the restoration of all the occupied territories including Jerusalem. The two presidents expressed their conviction that the easing of tensions depends on the transformation and democratization of all international relations. They stressed that the Nonaligned Movement's principles and objectives are more than ever an essential and irreplaceable factor for the liberation of peoples, the consolidation of national independence, the promotion of equitable international cooperation, and the establishment of real peace in the world.

The two presidents placed particular emphasis on the fundamental role which the developing countries must play in establishing new relations between the developed and developing countries to encourage the advent of a new international economic order.

In this framework the two presidents were anxious to stress their support for the appeal launched by the seventh conference of nonaligned heads of state and government for "prosperity and solidarity." To this end they reaffirmed their intention to work tirelessly to promote collective autonomy and solidarity among developing countries. Discussing Arab-African cooperation, whose purpose for the states concerned is to consolidate their political independence and make good their technological lag over the industrial countries in order to be recognized as full partners in taking decisions concerning the world's future, the two presidents expressed the desire to give new dynamism to this cooperation to ensure that it produces even more positive results in the interests of the Arab and African peoples. President Chadli Bendjedid expressed his great satisfaction with President Abdou Diouf's visit to Algeria and praised the wisdom and farsightedness with which he presides over Senegal's destiny.

The two presidents hold the view that this visit, which reflects the ties of friendship, fraternity, and cooperation between the Senegalese and Algerian peoples, has contributed to their consolidation and to strengthening inter-African solidarity. President Abdou Diouf invited President Chadli Bendjedid to visit Senegal and President Bendjedid accepted that invitation with pleasure. The date of the visit will be fixed through diplomatic channels.

Committee Signs Cooperation Accord With YAR

GF010642 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 1 Nov 83

[Excerpt] The discussions of the joint Yemeni - Algerian committee were concluded yesterday as the two fraternal countries signed an agreement for bilateral cooperation. The agreement was signed on the Yemeni side by Dr Hasan Makki, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, member of the Standing Committee, and head of the Yemeni delegation. On the Algerian side the agreement was signed by Mohamed (?Mouysi), member of the Central Committee and minister of energy and land development. [name and title as heard] They agreed that the next session will be held in the YAR during the next 6 months.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Warns of 'Violent Reaction' in 1984

LD311612 Tripoli JANA in English 1448 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Tripoli, Muharram 25, Oct 31, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the revolution made a statement to the JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY in which he said: "Unless practical and concrete results are achieved by the joint Arab action during 1983 in the interest of the Arab unity and the

ordinary Arab citizen and against the enemy, there are fears of a violent reaction during 1984 and after that will not leave those defeatist regimes any chance for manoeuvering because they will not find any argument to defend themselves."

Jabir Meets Admiral Mamula in Belgrade
LD010342 Tripoli JANA in English 1910 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Belgrade, Muharram 25, Oct 31, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Armed Forces, met this morning with Admiral Branko Mamula the secretary general of the Federal Defence Secretary [as received] in Yugoslavia. The meeting which was attended by the Arab Libyan delegation and the chief of staffs of the Yugoslav Armed Forces focused on mutual cooperation existing between the two countries and the ways and means to develop it further.

Returns From CSSR, SFRY
LD010052 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0015 GMT 1 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces has concluded his visit to the CSSR and the SFRY and returned to Tripoli last night. During these visits Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir conducted talks and held meetings with the officials in the two friendly countries, concentrating on the bolstering of cooperation existing between the Jamahiriyah and Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia in all fields, and the means of developing this cooperation in a manner that would achieve the interests of the Libyan Arab people and the Czechoslovak and the Yugoslav peoples.

Paper on British Forces' Return to Egypt
LD010325 Tripoli JANA in English 1842 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Tripoli, Muharram 25, Oct 31, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Libyan Arab paper *Az-Zahf al-Akhdar* [words indistinct] revolutionary committee wrote on the return of the British colonialist forces to Egypt. The paper said that "after the death of 'Abd al-Nasir and the establishment of a hireling regime, British colonialist forces are returning to Egypt, thus challenging the will and dignity of the Egyptian masses and the Arab nation that views this treacherous act as a grave insult to the principles of the July 23 revolution [words indistinct] persistent struggle against all forms of colonialism in the Arab nation." The paper referred to the changes that have taken place in Egypt following the execution of the traitor As-Sadat who opened Egypt's doors wide open to Zionism and (?U.S.) imperialism and transformed the country into a U.S.-Zionist base. Thus threatening the existence of the Arab nation. [punctuation as received]

It added: "It has becomne clear that (?traitor) Husni Mubarak's regime is a continuation of As-Sadat's. It is continuing the process of transforming Egypt into an imperialist Zionist base hostile to the Arab nation and to the nation's progressive and revolutionary regimes. In fact, Mubarak's role is more dangerous than that of As-Sadat".... [JANA ellpises] The paper accused traitor Mubarak of prodding the U.S. last February to deploy its fleet in the Mediterranean and strike at people's (?authorities in) the Jamahiriyah to end what he described as the Libyan threat to Sudan.

MOROCCO

King Hassan Interviewed for French Radio, TV
LD310320 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Excerpts] His Majesty King Hassan II who is currently in France made a statement to French writer Raul-Marie de la Gorce, who is well known for his editorial articles in the French press. The interview was for certain French TV and radio information media. It was broadcast this evening via television channel one [name indistinct]. The French journalist raised various topical issues with his majesty, especially the Middle East issue and the situation in Lebanon, the Arab peace program, President Reagan's program, and recent events in Grenada.

Here is the full text of the interview with his majesty [read by announcer]:

[De la Gorce] Your majesty, the Western powers were naturally shaken by the events and attacks in Beirut. Other countries were also shaken. The Lebanon issue concerns the Western countries. It also concerns the countries of the area and the Arab countries. You are one of the leaders. How do you see the dangers of the situation prevailing there and the chances for its improvement?

[Hassan] The Lebanese issue and what has happened in Lebanon had an impact. It is a matter of murder and nothing else. An unarmed soldier is a civilian among civilians. Among these were young men and women. But I believe what happened could have been avoided if the Middle East issue had not been raised unilaterally in the most sensitive aspect, i.e., if there had not been a desire to pursue a solution to the problem as a whole. But now what happened, has happened. And in any case, I hope that the Lebanese officials who will meet in Geneva will be equal to the responsibilities they shoulder.

[De la Gorce] Your majesty, do you not have a feeling that the Lebanese issue has demoted the Palestinian problem to a secondary status? Yet it had been said on several occasions that this issue was the top crisis of the Middle East. Can there be a solution to one of the two problems while neglecting the other?

[Hassan] This is impossible. This is because there are 4.5 million Palestinians. The inevitable duty is to take them into consideration and a homeland and some rights should be recognized for them. If this issue is not settled the danger will remain.

[De la Gorce] Yes. Your majesty, last year you hosted the Fes conference in your country, and after the conference it was agreed to release a statement that recognizes the existence of the states of the area and calls for self-determination and the establishment of a state for the Palestinians. Following that statement

there was a move by the group of heads of state who travelled to several regions of the world in pursuit of support for the ideas contained in the statement. How do you see the result of those efforts today?

[Hassan] The result in my opinion, is positive. I would have liked for the seven of us to meet in order to assess that result in its volume and success. But regrettably, I have not always detected an urgent desire to hold such a meeting at the level of limited summit by a group of its members.

[De la Gorce] Do you believe that they are afraid of learning the truth, namely that the Palestinian issue did not make any progress. Do you feel that they are (?seeing an adverse development) in the way of solution?

[Hassan] You must not forget in regards to the Middle East issue that peace is not desired by all. Some people will not take an unequivocal stand except in the shadow of a state of war. This is something we ought not forget.

[De la Gorce] You had the opportunity during your efforts on the Middle East problem to meet President Reagan on numerous occasions. You often said that his stand on the Middle East issue and his influence on other international issues could be decisive. How do you view the policy he is following? Do you believe his stand agrees with the solution which you hope for in regards to the Middle East?

[Hassan] I have great esteem for President Reagan. He is a man who is loyal to commitments and a man of balanced judgment. It is certain that domestic American issues (?resemble in their) dimensions and have the size of foreign issues. This is how things are. I am certain that President Reagan intends to find a fair, just, and permanent solution in the Middle East. Can one regard his plan as the ideal plan or should one think that the Fes plan is better? As far as I am concerned, I combine the two schemes, the Reagan plan and the Fes plan. If we combine them we would be able to find the solution in which President Reagan firmly believes.

[De la Gorce] Do you not see a confict between the two schemes in regards to the right of the Palestinians to establish a state?

[Hassan] It is a question of formulation and nothing more. For example, we say to President Reagan that the Palestinians' self-determination must be recognized and he says: Yes, but Israel's right of existence must also be recognized. And we answer this by saying: It is Israel's right to live in peace in observance of international legality, a right that is implicit in the Fes plan. Therefore I see that it is quite enough to continue the dialogue patiently. I believe as I have already said that it would have been possible to arrive at peace in the Middle East had it not been for the fact that peace is not desired by all. I am one of the heads of state and not their leader. I do not have the power to bring them together unless they want to.

[De la Gorce] Does not the current crisis within the ranks of the Palestinian resistance raise another barrier in the way of the (?gradual approach) broached at the Fes conference?

[Hassan] (?Yes,) but I must quite clearly say that what I explained to the Americans I tried to put across simply and briefly. One must not feel happy at the division in the PLO. We may prefer this man to that man or have sympathy with this or that man. The important thing however, is that there are 4.5 million Palestinians and that they are dispersed across the Arab world. In particular they are spread all over the oil countries, which are traditional friends of the West. As long as there are no spokesmen for the 4.5 million Palestinians,they must be exposed not to (?indifference) but to polarization by the warring factions, and to their (?hardliners) who are subversive and who prevent the restoration of peace as a result of the attacks they plan, their interference in the domestic affairs of others, and other acts. There is no reason for anyone to be happy over the division in the ranks of the PLO. On the contrary, it becomes necessary for the PLO to come together so that we can have a spokesman.

[De la Gorce] Your majesty, I believe an end was put recently to the powers enjoyed by the Moroccan Parliament. Does this mean that we are on the threshold of a new stage in Moroccan domestic policy? How should we visualize Morocco's political future?

[Hassan] The matter is as you imagine. We have found ourselves facing the following situation: The legislative elections might coincide with the referendum in the Sahara by a matter of weeks. This referendum has been delayed for reasons for which we are not responsible. I did not want, while working for a harmonious, noble attitude, a coordinated or unified stand on the referendum, to open an election campaign with its debates, heated talk, heated sentiments, and the wounds that it might open and that would not heal for months.

Some kind of an agreement was reached on which we were unanimous: king, party, trade unions, and people. The agreement was to put an end to this parliament because it could not continue in view of the laws governing the Kingdom's institutions. Consequently, we postponed the election date. This situation is provided for by Article 19 of the Moroccan Constitution. It states that in order to avoid a vacuum in a situation like this, the king takes on the attributes of Parliament, providing that the king is wise enough not to decide on intricate matters and he only deputies. I deputize for the assembly and you know that the one who merely deputizes does not [words indistinct]. However, if such a problem was raised and there was a need to decide, we would do so.

[De la Gorce] Finally, your majesty, this is a question dictated by present circumstances: What was your majesty's reaction to the American intervention in Grenada?

[Hassan] I refer you to a statement more useful to you and clear to the listeners. I approve 100 percent what Edgar Faure said to *Le Figaro*. He said where there is crime, there is no room for law. A crime was committed when the prime minister was assassinated and legitimacy was lost. The killers have no right to use international law to justify the legitimacy they claimed. This article was very good. Here we are and that is my opinion.

[De la Gorce] Thank you, your majesty.

Official Gives Ambassadors Note on Sahara

LD292138 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] The secretary of state for foreign affairs, Abdelhaq Tazi, received this morning all ambassadors accredited to his majesty the king in Rabat in successive, regional group meetings. The secretary of state delivered a note to the ambassadors containing the legal, political, and logical arguments upon which is based Morocco's constructive stand regarding the implementation of the OAU resolutions concerning the cease-fire and the referendum in the Sahara.

Tazi on Saharan Issue

GF300826 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0525 GMT 30 Oct 83

In an interview with the Saudi newspaper *Al-Yawm* published today, Mr Tazi said that the Saharan issue is one concerning national soil to the Moroccan people and that his country has accepted the principle of referendum despite having to concede some just Moroccan rights. He said that the aid which the gangs are receiving comes from a country neighboring Morocco. Referring to the delay in announcing the great Arab Maghreb, Tazi said that the peoples' sincere desire for this still exists and that the Arab Maghreb leaders are exerting great efforts in order to eliminate the reasons which have delayed the achieving of this significant step. He said that the leaders of the Maghreb countries are exerting intense efforts to reach a suitable announcement very soon.

SUDAN

Numayri: Islamic Law To Apply to Non-Muslims

NC281806 Paris AFP in English 1750 GMT 28 Oct 83

[By Michel Garin]

[Text] Khartoum, Oct 28 (AFP) — Non-Muslims will be punished according to Sudan's recently-introduced Islamic law if found guilty of theft, which involves amputation of the right hand, Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri said in an interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE here this week. However "with regard to offences involving adultery and carnal conversation," sanctions under the Sharia Code would only apply to Muslims, General Numayri said. The Sudanese leader is expected to discuss the recent changes in the penal code — which have brought protests from Christian leaders here — with Pope John Paul II in Rome on November 12. "I stand ready to discuss any matter with a view to promoting the spiritual and moral values which we as Christians and Muslims hold in common," he said. President Numayri confirmed that he would also be going to Washington for talks with President Ronald Reagan, without specifying the date.

Diplomatic sources here said he was expected to go on November 21.

They would be discussing "matters of common interest and cooperation between the United States and Sudan," he said. He attributed (?the) country's economic difficulties to the drop in the prices of raw materials and the increases in those of manufactured goods and oil. He noted that Sudan had taken a number of austerity measures in cooperation with bodies such as the International Monetary Fund, including cuts in state spending, reductions in imports, minimum borrowing, and the closure of 22 diplomatic missions abroad. The presence in Sudan of a large number of refugees from neighbouring countries continued to be an economic burden, President Numayri said. He admitted that southern Sudan had experienced "isolated instances of disturbances," which he blamed on "certain misguided elements who opposed recent decentralisation measures" for the south, "aided and abetted by foreign quarters inimical to the cause of the national unity of Sudan." Gen Numayri justified the decision last June to split the autonomous southern region into three by the fact that it was impossible to administer from the local capital of Juba because of communications difficulties.

On neighbouring Chad, where Sudan has traditionally backed current President Hissein Habre who is engaged in a civil war against his Libyan-backed predecessor Goukouni Oueddei, Gen Numayri said: "We stand for legitimacy and against destabilisation." On the movement of refugees, food, and drugs across the 1,300-km (800 mile) frontier, the Sudanese leader said: "We will continue to live up to our humanitarian commitments."

Numayri Receives Message From Somalia's Barre

JN311800 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1730 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Khartoum, 31 Oct (SUNA) — President Muhammad Ja'far Numayri today received Adam Mohamed Ali, head of the Somali Socialist Revolutionary Party's delegation to the African Socialist Parties Conference Organization and chairman of the party's Foreign Relations Bureau. Adam Mohamed Ali conveyed to the president a message from Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre. In a news conference, Adam Mohamed Ali explained that the message dealt with bilateral relations between the two countries. He said that President Numayri asked him to convey to President Barre greetings from the Sudanese Government and people. On the organization's conference, Adam Mohamed Ali said that during the organization's previous conference it was decided to send a delegation to Somalia. He said that it is expected that the date of the visit will be decided during this conference. He expressed the Somali Socialist Revolutionary Party's desire to learn from the African experience which is represented by the organization.

Finance Minister Begins European Tour 30 Oct

JN301753 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1740 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 30 Oct (SUNA) — Ibrahim Mun'im Mansur, Sudanese minister of finance and economic planning, left for Rome today to start a 2-week visit to Italy, France, and a number of European countries. He will hold talks with the competent authorities in those countries on promoting economic relations and continuing the efforts to reach a formula for rescheduling Sudan's debts in 1984.

WESTERN SAHARA

Ministry Issues Military Action Statement

LD291556 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] A statement issued by the Saharan Ministry of Information this morning reports that the Liberation Army of the Saharan People carried out concentrated shelling with heavy weapons against the concentrations of Moroccan forces stationed at (Laouitgat) and Aouilet el-Halfa on 21 and 24 October. The statement added that Moroccan forces suffered appreciable human and material losses during these two operations.

Government Condemns New Moroccan Offensive

LD311141 Algiers APS in English 1021 GMT 31 Oct 83

["SDAR/Saharan Government Denunciation" — APS headline]

[Text] Hauza (liberated territories), 31-10-83 (APS) — Morocco has undertaken since 27 October a vast campaign of (?striking) against SPLA (Saharan People's Liberation Army) bases inside liberated territories, notably in the zone between Tifariti and Semara, a communique from the Saharan Ministry of Information indicated today. This offensive "comes at a time when many believe in the beginning of a just and a definitive solution of Western Sahara conflict, a hope based on two realities, one has to recall" the communique noted.

The first one concerns, according to the Saharan communique, "the international consensus which clearly springs from the debates of the present UN General Assembly, reinforcing and extending the African consensus on the emergency of a political solution of the conflict opposing since eight years SDAR to Morocco and the starting of direct negotiations between the two belligerents so as to stop [as received] modalities of the cease-fire and the referendum of self-determination, as an indispensable preliminary to the effective application of the African peace plan regarding Western Sahara.

The second reality consists in "the peace willingness of SDAR Government which wants to privilege the political dialogue on the force of armaments, convinced that is the ineluctability of the political solution, and in order not be drawn by the tortuous paths of the generalized escalation, works for attenuating, and even reducing the military escalation by slowing down the ascending elan of SPLA offensives, notably in Messeied and in Semara. So, very violent combats are opposing since 28 October SPLA units to Moroccan forces and are carried on till the present time, the communique from the Saharan Ministry of Information added, stating, according to information coming from the battle-field, important human and material losses within the Moroccan Army.

CHAD

Zairian Military Delegation Arrives in Ndjamena

AB311320 Paris AFP in French 1623 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 29 October (AFP) — A delegation of 17 Zairian Army officers led by Vice Admiral Lomponda wa Botende arrived in Ndjamena on Saturday afternoon from Kinshasa. Vice Adm Lomponda wa Botende affirmed on his arrival in the Chadian capital that the purpose of his mission was "to see the men here in the field" and meet with Chadian authorities.

The Zairian delegation, which arrived in Ndjamena on board a Hercules C-141 plane of the U.S. Air Force, will visit Abeche and Mousoro (in eastern and western Chad, respectively) on Sunday and Monday where the Zairian troops dispatched to Chad by the Kinshasa government to support Chadian President Hissein Habre in his fight against the Chadian armed rebellion have been stationed. Vice Adm Lomponda wa Botende, the duration of whose stay in Chad has not been stated, will be received in audience on Monday by President Hissein Habre. The Chadian head of state returned home on Sunday following a 24-hour visit to Gbadolite in Zaire where he had discussions with Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, it should be recalled.

Bardai Says GUNT Forces Operate Countrywide

AB312220 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The armed struggle of our people is indivisible. This is no figment of our imagination nor a formula for propaganda. The (?several) clashes that took place recently in Amboi in (Bada) and Afgar in Chari Baguirmi, the deterioration of the situation in the south of the country, and the spectacular diversion of a DC-4 aircraft by three Chadian pilots prove eloquently that the liberation war does not stop at the red line unilaterally and arbitrarily drawn by France.

In fact, today, no one is ignorant of the fact that in spite of this famous French military line, the revolutionary Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] forces are carrying out intensive acts of harassment against positions of the national annihilation forces positions. Today, one can say without any fear of contradiction that the politico-military situation is improving for the GUNT because not only do the revolutionary forces occupy more that 500,000 square km in the northeastern and northwestern sectors of the national territory, but also elements of the National Liberation Army [ANL] control large sectors within the area occupied by France and Zaire. It is necessary to recall that this is due to the comprehensive military strategy adopted by the GUNT and spearheaded by ANL. And in this way, with the renewed outbreaks and the extension of hotbeds of tension and insecurity to central and southern Chad, which hasbeen widely reported by the international press, a new image of Chad is being projected abroad.

To observers, not only is the northern half of the country out FAN's control, but with the ebullition of the central and southern regions, the entire national territory is affected by the civil war. From north to south, from east to west, in fact, all over the country, the same patriots have stood up against the pro-American reactionary order established by Hissein Habre, the traitor. From the four corners of the country, the militants, with or without arms, have risen up against the puppet administration in the pay of the West. It is quite evident that this situation does not all allow the enemies of the Chadian people to sleep; this is testified by the feverish consultations between the Ndjamena valets and their Kinshasa abettors, as illustrated by the trip made to Gbadolite by the leader of antinational forces and the arrival later in Chad of a team of Zairian officers. All of this proves that the clique of the butchers of the Chadian people is out of gear and no longer knows where it is going. And even though the butchers have ended up adopting the same view with the truly peace-loving forces, they have been prompted to do so by the circumstances. And at any rate, this is inconsistent with the bellicose and aggressive intentions which they continue to nourish.

RWANDA

Belgian Foreign Minsiter Arrives on 3-Day Visit

EA311532 Kigali Domestic Service in French 1115 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Belgian External Affairs Minister Mr Leo Tindemans arrived in Kigali this morning for a 3-day official visit to our country. He was met on arrival at Kanombe International Airport by Rwandan Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Minister militant Francois Ngarukiyintwali. Mr Leo Tindemans explained the aim of his visit to our colleague from the Rwanda news agency, Cyprien Ngatana:

[Begin Tindemans recording] There are many reasons for my visit to Rwanda. First of all, I have never visited our country either as foreign minister or as a private citizen. This has been an omission in my life which I have wanted to rectify as soon as possible. So, I am here for the first time in your country, and I am happy to be here. But, second, I also have a special reason. As you know, the External Affairs Ministry has, with the approval of the entire government, published a document on African policy, that is, a new policy toward the African Continent. I am trying to implement systematically the proposals and ideas that have been developed in this document. Accordingly, within the framework of diversification of our African policy, I want to visit several African countries. So I am here. I want to get to know your country. I want to see how we can further improve our already excellent relations. There are always ways of improving them still further. I am here to make efforts in several directions to make these relations as superlative as possible. [end recording]

BENIN

Kerekou Returns From Niamey Summits

AB312100 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Excerpt] The delegation of our party and our revolutionary state headed by President Kerekou returned to Cotonou in the afternoon after attending the summits of the West African Economic Community [CEAO], the Non-Aggression and Defense Aid Agreement [ANAD], and the West African Monetary Union [UMOA]. It participated in the meetings with the status of observer for the CEAO and ANAD and as a full member of the UMOA. As usual, head of state President Kerekou was welcomed by the central authorities of the party and the state, cadres, and thousands of militants of the revolution who turned out to receive him.

GHANA

Demonstrators Protest U.S. Grenada Action

AB312120 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Thousands of workers in the Accra-Tema district today took to the streets to demonstrate their solidarity with the workers, youth, and people of Grenada. The workers, bearing placards with inscriptions: Name Redemption Circle After Maurice Bishop, Boycott 1984 Olympic Games, Free Grenada and Namibia and We Condemn Imperialism, chanted revolutionary songs through the principal streets to the Independence Square where their resolutions were read. The Accra District Defense Committee's resolution condemned the U.S.-led invasion of Grenada and expressed the view that this terrible act is in total violation of the UN Charter on Human Rights and showed a lack of respect for the sovereignty of progressive countries. The resolution noted that despite its riches and arms, the U.S. senses a threat from all progressive Third World countries taking to the revolutionary path.

The PDCs [People's Defense Committees] and WDCs [Workers' Defense Committees] made it clear that all people of Ghana want to tell the U.S. and her allies that they cannot hijack Ghana's revolutionary process and turn it into a reformist struggle as they are currently doing in Grenada.

In its resolution, the Tema PDCs and WDCs condemned the bullying policies of the Reagan administration on the exploited people of Latin America. It also condemned the self-appointed role of the world policeman that the U.S. has adopted in the troubled areas of the Middle East, Chad, Angola, Afghanistan, SDAR, Nicaragua, and El Salvador. The workers saluted the militant and heroic resistance of the workers of Grenada and said the workers of Ghana take inspiration from the defeat of the U.S. by Vietnam and Cuba. The resolution noted that a people committed in the defense of a just cause can never be defeated. The resolutions were later presented to the Political Secretariat of the American Embassy for onward transmission to the Reagan administration.

MALI

President Traore Returns From Niamey Summit

AB312122 Bamako Domestic Service in French 2015 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Excerpt] It is no longer a rumor. It is now official that Mali has rejoined the West African Monetary Union, UMOA. President Moussa Traore has been elected current chairman of the West African Economic Community, CEAO, and the Non-Aggression and Defense Aid Agreement, ANAD. These were the main results of the three summits which have just ended inNiamey, in Niger.

NIGER

'Informed Sources' on Possible Cabinet Reshuffle

AB011040 Paris AFP in French 0953 GMT 1 Nov 83

[Text] Niamey, 1 Nov (AFP) — A Cabinet reshuffle could take place in Niger in the very near future, it was learned from informed sources in Niamey today. This reshuffle, which should have taken place a long time ago, was made indispensable by the coup attempt on 6 October that led to the arrest of Mahamane Ousseini, minister of national education, and Dr Abdou Moudi, secretary of state for national education. President Seyni Kountche, it is stated by a reliable source, had decided to reshuffle his Cabinet before the French-African summit in Vittel in early October. His intention, the source adds, was to relieve Oumarou Mamane of his functions as prime minister so that he could devote himself exclusively to the chairmanship of the National Council for Development, CND, which the Niger head of state wants to make the backbone of Niger's political life. The prime minister was appointed chairman of this council in early October. The CND aims to promote the effective participation of the people in the country's development policy and after a period of time, that has not yet be fixed, it will be charged with the drawing up of a national charter.

NIGERIA

Foreign Ministry Condemns U.S. Grenada 'Invasion'

AB312130 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Nigeria has condemned the military invasion of Grenada by forces from the United States and some six Caribbean states. A statement by the Ministry of External Affairs in Lagos today described the invasion as deplorable and unjustified, adding that it represented a violation of the UN Charter. The statement denounced the frequent threats of force by the superpowers to topple governments they did not like. It noted that respect for the principles of the UN Charter or international law was indispensable for the maintenance of internal peace and security. Nigeria therefore called for the immediate withdrawal of all foreign troops from Grenada to allow the return of normalcy to the island.

Shagari Vetoes Economic Stabilization Bill

AB311640 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] President Shehu Shagari has vetoed the Economic Stabilization Temporary Provisions Amendment Bill and the Legal Aid Amendment Bill 1983. The president made this known today in a letter he sent to the speaker of the House of Representatives. He said that he decided to withhold his assent to the two bills in exercise of the powers conferred on him under Section 54, subsection 4, of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1979. The Economic Stabilization Temporary Provisions Amendment Bill seeks to give the National Assembly an opportunity to review the effectiveness of orders made under the act. The Legal Aid Amendment Bill is intended to harmonize the Legal Aid Act of 1976 with the Constitution with the view to widening the scope of legal aid to cover cases relating to the infringement of fundamental rights. It also seeks to increase the income qualification of persons entitled to free legal aid. Each house of the former National Assembly had passed the two bills and sent them to the president for his assent on the 27th of last month.

SIERRA LEONE

Students Blockade Campus, Demand Better Food

AB282145 Paris AFP in English 1718 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] Freetown, Oct 28 (AFP) — Sierra Leone university students who covered their principal and vice -chancellor in powdered milk and frog-marched them to see President Siaka Stevens continued to blockade the campus today to press demands for better food and conditions. Principal Eldred Jones was seeking a meeting with the executive of the students' union to find ways and means of "containing the situation and giving some reassurance to staff that they can come to work without fear of molestation." A scheduled meeting of the executive of the senior staff association failed to take place. Professor Jones, vice-chancellor Arthur Porter — a former principal of the University of Nairobi — students' warden and former Commissioner of Police Jenkins Smith and Dr Amy Gooding were forced to eat powdered milk and puff cakes in front of 1,661 students yesterday. Dr Gooding was later released but the three men were forced to march two miles (three kilometres) to State House, where the students put their demands to President Siaka Stevens and senior members of his cabinet.

TOGO

Lome on 'Success' of Eyadema Visit to U.S.

AB311230 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Excerpt] We said earlier that the visit of President Eyadema to the United States was a success. It was a success in several ways. In the first place, President Eyadema's visit to the United States will contribute to the strengthening of relations between our two countries, especially in the economic field. The large number of American businessmen and industrialists who said they were interested in investments in Togo is only an illustration of what will be the future relations between our two countries, Togo and the United States.

The second lesson to be drawn from this visit is that although our country is small, its outside influence is inestimable, and this is so thanks to General Gnassingbe Eyadema, the founding-chairman of the Togolese People's Rally, RPT, and president of the republic whose international dimension we have been able, once again, to appreciate. Be it meetings with American officials, African diplomats accredited to the United States, or with the international press, we noted that all the actions and efforts of President Eyadema to attain peace and development are keenly followed and appreciated. The success of the president's visit to North America mainly lies in his love for peace and work. Finally, we are convinced that this trip to the United States will contribute to the development of American tourism in Togo.

UPPER VOLTA

Sankara Activities at Niamey Summits Reported

AB311200 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] For details on the trip of the comrade chairman who arrived yesterday in Niamey for the West African Economic Community, CEAO, the Non-Aggression and Defense Aid Agreement, ANAD, and the West African Monetary Union, UMOA, triple summit, we immediately join Sacre Seidou Ouedraogo, our special radio correspondent:

[Begin recording] Yesterday we told you that besides the deliberations, the comrade chairman visited his Niger host, General Seyni Kountche. But prior to this meeting, Comrade Sankara was received in audience by Ivorian President Houphouet-Boigny before he went for talks with Mr Abdou Diouf of Senegal. Right after the visit of President Kountche, which I just mentioned, the chairman of the National Council for the Revolution, CNR, paid his last visit of the evening at 2300 to his Malian counterpart, General Moussa Traore.

This is thus a very busy program, but this can be explained by the CNR's clearly defined desire to improve or maintain open relations with all countries of the world and more especially with states of the subregion. Since 4 August, Upper Volta has started a new take-off feared by certain people because they have not yet understood or simply pretend not to understand the meaning of the Upper Voltan revolution. The sad consequence is that they think they must destabilize this regime in order to return to the old order of things that is incompatible with the interest of masses. Comrade Thomas Sankara has therefore decided to stretch out his hand once again, as he did the day following 4 August, to all peaceloving people of goodwill since it is true that the Upper Voltan revolution is not directed against any people, or any government, even if proofs of a mercenary attack against our country, prepared and financed by certain countries, are available to the CNR.

Therefore, these various audiences can be placed within the context of efforts to explain and redefine the objectives of the CNR in order to avoid any unfortunate experience. These visits

can also be placed within the context of a search for ways and means to consolidate bilateral relations between us and the others.

Here in Niamey, the presidents of Niger, Mali, Upper Volta, Ivory Coast, Mauritania, Senegal, and, exceptionally, Benin met behind closed doors this morning at 1100 GMT to discuss what the CEAO should be in the coming years. The heads of state will be joined by the Togolese representative, and in the absence of the Beninese president they will continue with their deliberations on the ANAD documents. And when it will be the UMOA's turn, Mali and Mauritania, which are not members, will be excluded but Benin will join in. The heads of state will have the task of deliberating on documents prepared by the experts and ministers of the community in order to work out a strategy for the economic and financial recovery for the people of the subregion.

Yesterday at the opening session, President Kountche stressed that the issue of promoting the creation of national coordination centers in each country of the community for the exchange of ideas for the future prospects of the union will also come up for discussion. According to him, these three summits must lead to constant research on food and energy self-sufficiency, purging and rationalization of the public heritage, optimal utilization of national resources, and finally, increased harmonization of development policies in the subregion. There is a lot to do, but optimism prevails here in Niamey, even if, according to President Diouf of Senegal, there are still many structural, technical, human, and financial obstacles. [Words indistinct], there will be the signing of an agreement between the Arab Bank for the Economic Development of Africa and Niger on one hand and with Senegal on the other, for the execution of some community projects. As a side show to this summit, comrade chairman promises to visit our brothers residing in Niamey to convey to them the popular greetings of the revolution. There is no doubt that between brothers there will be a lot to say. [end recording]

Libya To Give 12 Billion CFA for Road Work

AB311305 Dakar PANA in French 1225 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Ouagadougou, 31 October (AVP/PANA) — Libya is to finance the tarring of some streets in the Upper Voltan capital at a cost of 12 billion CFA francs. Following two meetings just held in Ouagadougou between Libyan and Upper Voltan technicians, it was decided that the funds will be made available within the next few days. During his visit to Upper Volta on 1 May 1983, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi promised the Upper Voltan people that his country would finance the repair of the streets of Ouagadougou.

Decrees Create 'Traditional' Agricultural Program

AB291015 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0730 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Decrees issued by Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution, in Ouagadougou on 27 October]

[Text] The chairman of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] and head of state decrees:

Article 1. A body to be called the Program for the Development of Traditional Agriculture has been created.

Article 2. This body is charged with promoting traditional agriculture, including improving sanitation and housing, and providing foodstuffs based on local products.

Article 3. The comrade minister of rural development is charged with executing the present decree which shall be recorded, published, and communicated wherever the need arises. Ouagadougou, 27 October 1983, [signed] Captain Thomas Sankara.

Decree number 2: The CNR chairman and head of state decrees:

Article 1. Comrade (Lompo Tiamouno), matriculation number 16,988, engineer and senior technician, is named director of the body called Program for the Development of Traditional Agriculture.

Article 2. The comrade minister of rural development is charged with executing the present decree which shall be recorded, published, and communicated wherever the need arises. Ouagadougou, 27 October 1983, [signed] Captain Thomas Sankara.

CDR Official: Mercenaries 'Will Be Killed'

AB301225 Paris AFP in English 1150 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Ouagadougou, Oct 30 (AFP) — Any mercenaries caught in Upper Volta will be killed, a leading member of the country's radical military regime warned here Saturday. Lieutenant Pierre Ouedraogo, national secretary-general of the Revolutionary Defence Committees [CDR] set up after the August 4 seizure of power by Captain Thomas Sankara, also said that every province would be given a militia known as "People's Vigilance Brigades."

Lieutenant Ouedraogo was speaking at the public presentation of the first unit of the brigades at a military parade organized by the National Revolutionary Guard to close two days of ceremonies. The brigades, made up of members of the defence committees, would ensure the defence of the people, resist all "military manoeuvres of imperialism" and be ready at any moment to face "all threats of destabilisation and all attacks on the interests of the Voltan people," Lieutenant Ouedraogo said. He called on committee militants to unmask any mercenary found in Upper Volta and bring him to the authorities to learn with whom and for whom he was working.

The National Revolutionary Defence Committee did not encourage blind violence, "but when violence is imposed upon us we will meet it with violence," Lieutenant Ouedraogo said. "If these mercenaries are captured thanks to your vigilance they will be physically liquidated here in Upper Volta," he warned, adding that committee members must be ready to take shotguns, machetes, clubs, and any other weapons they had in the fight against mercenaries. Captain Sankara said last week that a plot had been discovered for an imminent attack on his regime by mercenaries hired by former politicians and aided by "imperialism." Lieutenant Ouedraogo said that reactionaries were most alarmed when the people were armed. "We shall continue to train

and arm the people," he declared. For the first time armed women took part in yesterday's parade alongside men.

Appointments of Two Subprefects Terminated

AB280940 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] The chairman of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] and head of state has signed two decrees. Thus, the appointment of Comrade Debilgou Patine Anatole, civil administrator second class, fourth step, and subprefect of (Ouciviya) in Yatinga Province, has been terminated. Comrade Yeye Jean-Marie, subprefect of Kourtsi in Yatinga Province, will act as subprefect of (Ouciviya). The appointment of Comrade Domiba Geogroy, civil administrator second class, fourth step, subprefect of Kongoussi in Bam Province, has been terminated. Gendarmerie Adjudant Sanou Fidele, subprefect of Tema in Pasore Province, will act as subprefect of Kongoussi. Dawervere Kizito, registration no 121-005-307-576, economic adviser second class, first step, has been appointed regional price inspector for East Volta, with residence in Ouagadougou. Drabo Antoine, registration no 121-0081-09277, economic adviser third class, third step, has been appointed regional price inspector for West Volta with residence in Bobo-Dioulasso.

Former Ministers Among Civil Servants Dismissed

AB281248 Paris AFP in French 1201 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] Ouagadougou, 28 Oct (AFP) — The Upper Voltan Council of Ministers, meeting on Wednesday under the chairmanship of Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR], compulsorily retired 22 senior officials of the civil service, dismissed 130 others, and suspended 20 civil servants. This is the greatest number of retirements and dismissals since the 4 August 1983 coup d'etat. Among the senior officials dismissed are two former ministers — Finance Minister Edmond Ky and Health Minister Alain Ouedraogo.

Last week the Council of Ministers dismissed four journalists — Paul Yugbare, former press director at the president's office; Emile Bassono, former minister of information; Joachim Zongo, former director of Upper Voltan Radio and Television Broadcasting; and Francois Bassole, former director of the UPPER VOLTA NEWS AGENCY — and compulsorily retired three others including Raphael Zongo, former director of Upper Voltan Radio and Television Broadcasting, and Pierre Barry, former director of the radio and a former director of press at the president's office.

LE MONDE Views Political, Economic Positions

PM261256 Paris Le Monde in French 22 Oct 83 p 8

[Laurent Zecchini dispatch: "Upper Volta's 'Revolution'"]

[Excerpt] Ougadougou — "Pro-Libyan!": This is how the foreign press, particularly in France, labeled Captain Sankara on 17 May and 5 August. Upper Volta's head of state considers himself insulted, not because he harbors any antipathy toward the Libyan revolution — he has displayed the contrary on several occasions in the past — but because such a description contradicts what he claims to be the foundation of his action and his ambitions, namely a fierce nationalism. Indeed, the struggles within the People's Salvation Council [CSP] have crystallized considerably on this issue. "Progressive" officers such as Capt Sankara believed that President Ouedogro had reduced his country to "vassalage" to the benefit of "moderate" neighboring states such as the Ivory Coast.

Upper Volta's new diplomacy aims to make a break with this past, which implies forging no new ties of dependence. On 8 August Capt Sankara urgently requested Colonel al-Qadhdhafi to suspend the airlift that Libya had introduced, delivering various supplies, mainly military, to Ouagadougou airport. And even if this proves nothing, it must be observed that there are now fewer Libyans in the Upper Volta capital than when Capt Sankara was prime minister. But rumors spread fast in Ouagadougou. In the weeks following the coup d'etat several people "heard" aircraft landing at the airport at night.

A kind of "Libyan psychosis" has undoubtedly become established both within and outside Upper Volta. Its acknowledgment does not negate another fact: Relations between Tripoli and Ouagadougou are close and will be further strengthened in the future. As regards the military context, Defense Minister Major Lingani avers that 10 Cascavel tanks and 500 Kalashnikov rifles were supplied by Libya well before 4 August. In fact there are now 12 such tanks. As for the figure of 500 Kalashnikov rifles, according to military experts, it is a considerable underestimate. The same sources indicate that Libyan weapons are still arriving in the city of Po, via Tamale in Ghana. The convergences of viewpoints between the two capitals is understandable, inasmuch as the nonaligned policy that Upper Volta intends to pursue does not prevent it from opting clearly for the camp of "progressive" countries. From this viewpoint, there is a definite area of agreement between Upper Volta's head of state and Ghana's, Captain Jerry Rawlings. Both 32 years old, they head neighboring countries and share the same ideology. In Po, where they met on 1 October, the two heads of state agreed that the "revolutionary approach" is the best way of settling Third World problems. Hence one can understand the anxiety of the region's "moderate" countries, such as the Ivory Coast, Togo, and Niger, which fear not only attempts to destabilize their territory but the establishment of an alignment of progressive countries, which could be joined by General Kerekou's Benin, among others.

Since 4 August Capt Sankara has been striving to reassure his neighbors. The border dispute with Mali in the Algacher region could be resolved in time: During a visit by Capt Sankara to Bamako on 16 September the two countries agreed to submit their disputes to the International Court of Justice in the Hague. With the Ivory Coast, on the other hand, the normalization of bilateral relations will certainly be more laborious.

This fear of a possible "exporting" of Upper Volta's revolution, with Libya's backing, is explained partly by the large number of Upper Volta nationals (about 1.5 million) living in the Ivory Coast. So in the long term, irrespective of the disagreements between the capitals in their assessment of the international situation, Upper Volta cannot — in view of its enclave position

— permit itself to maintain poor relations with the Ivory Coast, which offers it a sea outlet.

This same realism explains the evolution of Capt Sankara's attitude to France. The searing condemnations of imperialism and neocolonialism, leveled mainly at Paris, have given way to greater moderation. The figures, in this connection, are very indicative: Upper Volta's overall budget for 1983 totals about 58 billion African Financial Community francs. At the same time French aid will total 21 billion. Some 500 French voluntary workers will contribute, through their technological assistance, to the survival of an economy entirely dependent on international and bilateral aid (Upper Volta's chief economic partners, after France, are the FRG, the United States, the Netherlands, and Canada). The public debt, steadily rising for the past several years, will total 8 billion francs in 1983. Last March Libya granted a 3 billion-franc loan and Algeria recently loaned 2 billion francs. France has agreed to a budgetary "extension" to the tune of 3.5 billion.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Interviewed on RSA, Cuban Ties

MB311604 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] The president of the People's Republic of Angola, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, said yesterday that defense plans established in the country have dealt hard blows in recent months to the internal enemy, who are supported and trained by the external enemy, racist South Africa. In an interview with the Cuban press agency, PRELA, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos also said that hundreds, if not thousands, of youths are joining the ranks of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola and that hundreds of women are prepared to fulfill tasks in the rear in support of the Army. We are determined to wage this struggle to defend our independence, our revolution, and our fatherland, said the Angolan head of state. He also hailed the support that the Angolan people receive from countries of the socialist community.

The president said that the situation currently facing southern Africa is the result of the expansionist policy of South Africa, which occupies a large part of Cunene Province and a portion of Cuando Cubango Province and which also attacks Mozambique and Lesotho. The president denounced attempts by imperialism, particularly South Africa, to link the situation in southern Africa with the so-called East-West conflict in order to mask its true intentions to prevent the accession of Namibia to independence and to maintain South Africa under continued apartheid rule.

President Jose Eduardo dos Santos also expressed his solidarity with the Cuban people, particularly at this moment of grief brought about by the loss of Cuban nationals in Grenada, who have been victims of the U.S. invasion of the island. The president expressed the desire to turn Angola and Cuba into solid bastions of socialism and peace for the good of their respective peoples and mankind.

Science, Technology Agreement Signed With Cuba

AB311350 Luanda ANGOP in French 1200 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] Luanda, 29 October (ANGOP) — A joint protocol relating to the general conditions for dispatching Cuban specialists to Angola in the field of science and technology was signed yesterday in Luanda at the end of the fifth session of the Angolan-Cuban Intergovernmental Cooperation Commission. The agreement was signed for Angola by Planning Minister Lopo do Nascimento and for Cuba by Hector Rodriguez Jompart, chairman of the State Economic Cooperation Committee.

On this occasion, Lopo do Nascimento, on behalf of the Angolan Government, thanked the Cuban Government for the concrete and objective manner in which it shows its friendship for and solidarity with other people and deplored the death of the Cuban internationalists on the island of Grenada.

SWATF Discloses UNITA Control of Border Area

MB311901 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1401 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Windhoek, Oct 31, SAPA — A contingent of the Angolan rebel movement, UNITA, has shifted westwards from the organisation's Cuando Cabango stronghold in south-eastern Angola and now mans a military base at Ngiva in southern Cunene Province, less than 100 km north of the SWA/Namibian border. According to a newspaper report in Windhoek today, UNITA has erected a signpost north of Oshikango in Owambo, on the border between SWA/Namibia and Angola. The signpost announces that UNITA controls the Oshikango checkpoint on what used to be the main road between SWA/Namibia and Angola.

"We have intelligence that UNITA is active north of Oshikango now," a spokesman for the SWA Territory Force [SWATF] said today. The Angolan movement's military presence in southern Cunene was its first major thrust back into the area since the Cuban-backed Angolan Government drove UNITA eastwards into Cuando Cubango in 1975. Southern Cunene was left by SWAPO logistical contingents, who retreated northwards beyond Cuban defence lines after security forces in SWA/Namibia carried out Operation Protea in 1978, aimed at rooting out SWAPO insurgents in the region.

The southern Angolan towns of Xangongo and Ngiva were still beyond Angolan Government control, more than two years after Operation Protea, the report said. The SWATF spokesman said security forces in SWA/Namibia had no ties with UNITA. Apart from intelligence reports that confirmed the presence of UNITA elements in southern Cunene, "we cannot comment on what is happening on the other side," he said.

BOTSWANA

Statement Issued on Shooting of South Africans

MB310657 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1125 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] An investigation has been launched into an incident in which two men were shot dead along the Chobe River in northern Botswana on Friday. This has been disclosed in a statement from the Office of the President today. The full text of the statement reads:

A report has been received that on 28 October 1983 at about 1730 and an antipoaching foot patrol consisting of four soldiers and a game scout walking along the Chobe River inside the park when they saw three men in motorboat. [sentence as heard] The men were accosting elephants crossing to the Caprivi by rushing at them with the boat. The patrol observed up to 11 elephants crossing in this way. The patrol tried to raise their base camp on the radio, but they were unsuccessful. Two of the soldiers then got a lift on a vehicle to Kasani, with a view to reporting the incident. The statement goes on to say:

The remaining members of the patrol, two soldiers and a game scout, then told the three men to stop. The men ignored the challenge until warning shots were fired. The men then stopped but refused to come out of the boat. They were warned they would be shot if they did not come out. The statment says they came out but two of them bolted and started running. Shots were fired and one of them was killed and the other escaped. According to the statement, the remaining man then tackled the game scout and tried to wrestle his gun from him. He was shot dead. The statement concludes that the incident has been investigated. No other details were disclosed.

Meanwhile, reports in the South African press named those killed as Mr (Bertie Bakker) from Botswana and Mr (Ronnie Visser) from the Transvaal Province of South Africa. The other person who escaped was named by the South African press as Mr (Stephen Visser) and, according to the officially controlled South African Television Service, the South African Government has also asked the Botswana Government for details of the shooting.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Receives Departing Soviet Muslim Official

MB3006/30 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] In Maputo yesterday President Samora Machel received Sheikh Abdulgani Abdullayev, the deputy chairman of the Muslim Religious Department for Central Asia. On the same occasion, the Soviet religious delegation bade farewell to the Mozambique head of state and gave him a present on his 50th birthday. At the meeting with President Samora Machel, Abdulgani Abdullayev pointed out that he had noted the existence of total freedom of worship in Mozambique. The Mozambique head of state said that the visit by the Soviet religious delegation to our country was the result of the struggle for liberty in Mozambique. He stressed that before independence the visit would not have been possible.

SOUTH AFRICA

Developments in Upcoming Referendum Reported

NP Plans Disclosed

MB3010054 Johannesburg Sunday Express in English 30 Oct 83 pp 1,2

[By Jean le May]

[Text] The National Party [NP] plans to govern the country until 1990 or 1991 if necessary without a general election. Legal provision for the party to cling to power until the end of the decade is skillfully but unobstrusively woven into the new Constitution Act. Mr P.W. Botha refused this week to give an assurace that elections would be held before April 29, 1986, when the life of the current Parliament expires.

Instead, if the Nationalists win the referendum on Wednesday, the current MPS will automatically become members of the new House of Assembly for a further term of five years — without an election. Depending on the time it takes to get the new constitution system off the ground, they could serve for a full ten years — from 1981 to 1991 — without an election.

It will be perfectly legal to do so if Mr Botha gets a 'yes' vote on Wednesday. Section 102(7) of the Constitution Act says the first session of the new Parliament must start within 21 days of the election of members to the Coloured and Indian houses of Parliament. Under Section 102(4), the present House of Assembly is constituted as the White House of Assembly under the new system, and no general election is necessary. Subsequent general elections must be held every five years, simultaneously for the three Houses.

Questions put to the Prime Minister through his Press Office this week received the reply: "It will be the prerogative of the State President to decide on the date of the next general election for the House of Assembly." However, it is known that the NP caucus was given the assurance in May that its seats were safe for seven years, which suggests the government expects to remain in power until at least 1990. This also ties in with talk among Nationalists two or three years ago — when the constitution plan was in its formative stages — that a period of "benevolent dictatorship" would be necessary to impose necessary reform.

Dr Fredrik van Zyl Slabbert, leader of the Progressive Federal Party, said this week an early general election was "unlikely." "If the PM scrapes a 'yes' in the referendum, he will apply himself to getting participation from the coloured and Indian communities," he said. "But it is unlikely that coloured and Indian general elections will be held earlier than mid-1984. He will then have to get the whole system on track, which will probably not be until January, 1985. I feel that Mr Botha will stall as long as possible so as to consolidate his position. It is quite likely that Nationalists will delay the next general election for whites as long as they can, even until 1991," Dr Slabbert said.

The possibility was discounted by Dr Willy Breytenbach, a senior official in the Department of Constitutional Planning and Development. "It is perfectly possible, in terms of the constitution, to delay a general election until 1991, but anyone can see that it would not be practicable."

Broederbond Involvement Revealed

MB3011122 Johannesburg Sunday Express in English 30 Oct 83 p 10

[By Jean le May]

[Text] Secret Broederbond documents handed to the *Sunday Express* this week show that the only hidden agenda in the government's constitutional proposals is to complete the structure of grand apartheid. They make it clear that there are no plans to include blacks in the new structure at any time in the future. On the contrary, it is repeatedly stated that blacks will be permanently accommodated in their own political structures — the homelands and independent states. Moreover, the rationale of the constitutional plan — as disclosed in the documents — is

that white sovereignty is "non-negotiable" in those parts of South Africa set aside, for white, coloured and Indian people.

Broederbond members are given the assurance that separate schools and separate residential areas are also non-negotiable. The documents show that the new constitution is the culmination of a masterplan drawn up by the Broederbond in 1976 to secure Afrikaner rule. They trace the role of the Broederbond and its 'think tanks' (dinkskrums) in the constitutional reform process from 1971 until this year. They provide evidence that the Broederbond has been intimately involved in the planning and evolution of the new constitution — right up the present.

A circular sent to branches last May headed 'New Constitutional Dispensation' takes credit for influencing the process of constitutional planning by referring specifically to the innovative role of the Broederbond through 'contact with friends in responsible circles" — the normal Broederbond phrase for the Cabinet. Another document, dated July this year and headed 'Developments With Regard to the Black Peoples of South Africa,' argues the necessity for constitutional reform on the grounds that blacks in South Africa will number 34.75 million, of whom more than 24-million will be urbanised, by the end of the century. Whites will then number only 5.6 million. The documents also show how the Broederbond moved away from acceptance of three separate Parliaments for white, colored and Indian people to a single Parliament with separate chambers.

Broederbond involvement in the planning of the constitution is set out in a highly confidential document — circulated in August this year — headed 'Historical Development of AB [Afrikaner Broederbond]-Thinking on a New Constitutional Dispensation.' This is how the involvement is recorded:

— The Broederbond initiated planning in 1971 by means of "talks and study documents."

— In 1976 the executive decided to undertake "a comprehensive and concrete plan for the implementation of separate development, bearing in mind that preservation of white sovereignty, the presence of coloureds and Indians in South Africa, and the self-determination of the different black peoples." The executive also called on all members to work for "a climate of acceptance for the plan," and organised 'think tanks' which concentrated largely on the future of coloureds and Indians.

— In July, 1977, the Broederbond executive circulated a document outlining "underlying principles" (uitgangspunte) which has emanated form its think-tanks, summarised like this:

The preservation of whites, and specifically of Afrikaners, as a minimum requirement for a new constitution. Blacks were to be accommodated in their own political systems. White, colored and Indian people must be accommodated within South Africa in such a way that each would decide on their 'own' affairs, with some arrangement for decisions regarding 'general' affairs.

All appearances of bowing to external pressures must be avoided, since "whatever we do it will not reduce the pressure." Some way must be found of moving away from the present system in which the white Parliament and Cabinet were the ruling component in the part of the country set aside for white, coloured and Indian people. The new system must be made so attractive to coloured people that they would abandon all claims to representation in the white Parliament.

The best plan was for the three communities each to have their own Parliament. To start with, the white Parliament would have the final say, but greater powers would be given to the coloured and Indian people according to their political development. The transfer of authority to coloured and Indian people could only be made meaningful if "meaningful concentrations" of people were created. Discussion of 'general affairs' was to be conducted in such a way that whites would be provided with a "escape hatch" (verlig heidsklep).

This was to be achieved by the Council of Ministers being chosen not on the principle of proportional representation but from majority parties only — so as to prevent the balance of power between parties within any population group being influenced by those of any other group.

— On April 28, 1978, following further think-tank sessions, chairmen and secretaries of branches met to discuss reactions received.

— In October, 1979, submission was laid confidentially before "members in the official (schlebusch) commission." The document summarises the submission as follows:

Any new constitutional proposals must offer a built in guarantee for the continued sovereignty of the white people and their descendants. The existing Westminster system must be changed, but in such a manner that it would depend not on power sharing but on a practical adjustment within the wide framework of separate development. There must be active contacts with the coloured and Indian people to persuade them to accept the new system in a spirit of goodwill and friendship.

The submission noted that many Broederbond members thought that whites should first vote on the system, while "there were also some opinions expressed that the coloured and Indian people should have their own homelands."

— In 1980 and 1981, "further discussions were held with Broeders in responsible positions."

— In October, 1981, the executive sent a circular to all regions saying the following points which had been agreed upon by the executive would be used as a basis for the new constitution:

Every group would have the right to its own schools and to residential areas in which members of other groups would not be allowed to live. There would be no common voters' roll. The constitution would guarantee the right to self-determination to white, coloured and Indian people. Coloured and Indian group areas would be developed further.

It was also noted that "all evidence points to the fact that the system of three separate Parliaments as proposed in 1977 is not practicable." In October, 1981, a memorandum on 'Afrikaner strategy' was also circulated by the executive committee. This

firmly rejected suggestions that differentiation under the new dispensation should be on any other grounds than race (volkere), and finally put paid to the suggestion of homelands for coloured and Indian people.

Broederbond's Boshoff Resigns

MB301154 Johannesburg Sunday Express in English 30 Oct 83 pp 1,2

[By Jean le May]

[Excerpts] Professor Carel Boshoff yesterday resigned from the Afrikaner Broederbond because details of the secret society's background role in the constitutional reform were 'leaked' to the *Sunday Express*. Speaking in a broken voice, Prof Boshoff, a former chairman and, until yesterday, a member of the executive of the Broederbond, accused Broederbond leaders of putting the interests of the National Party above those of the Afrikaner. He said: "I can't co-operate any more on these terms."

He resigned after being told the *Sunday Express* had obtained copies of a set of secret documents circulated to members of the Broederbond in an effort to drum up support for the new constitution. The *Sunday Express* was told that the executive council (uitvoerende raad) had decided in August — only a month after Prof Boshoff was forced out of the chairmanship — to throw its support behind the 'yes' vote. The leaked documents provided evidence of continous Broederbond involvement in the planning of the new constitution, which — the executive claimed — the Broederbond initiated as far back as 1971 in an attempt to secure the position of the Afrikaner. The documents show that one purpose of reform is to deflect coloured political ambitions away from the white House of Assembly and to secure white sovereignty on the basis of separate development. There is no intention of including the blacks.

Nevertheless, Prof Boshoff opposed the reform plan because it rejected separate homelands for coloured and Indian people. In a voice shaking with emotion, Prof Boshoff read a statement explaining that he was resigning because he thought the Broederbond executive clearly placed the interests of a political party above those of Afrikaners. It had become clear that there was no room for diverging political opinions within the organisation, he said. Referring to the leaked documents, he said: "I was against their compilation and circulation right from the start — I voted against it at the meeting. I can't co-operate any more on these terms. I fought the new constitution because it is not able to handle conflict and is not a long-term solution for South Africa."

Prof Boshoff was ousted as chairman because Sabra [SA Bureau for Racial Affairs] the academic think-tank of which he is still chairman, rejected the government's constitutional proposals and put forward its own. The Sabra proposals have marked similarities to those of the Conservative Party [CP]. He has denied a close association with the CP, but since his resignation, Prof Boshoff has continued to propagate the concept of separate homelands for white, Colored, and Indian people.

Meanwhile, Sabra has denied allegations that it has become political adjunct of the CP. However, a Sabra statement issued this week in Prof Boshoff's name puts forward a strong case for separate homelands and also for the development of growth points in white areas provided 'large, multi-racial towns' were not created alongside. Prof Boshoff's statement reads:

"The executive committee of the Afrikaner Broederbond has associated itself with the proposed new constitution for South Africa. This is illegal and in conflict with the terms of the (Broederbond) constitution, which excludes involvement in political differences which divide its members. Moreover it is inherently false because no opinion poll was conducted among members. Any move made by the executive committee to make its decision public is meaningless, since this is done only with an eye to its propaganda value in the coming referendum. Moreover the executive has now given irrevocable proof that it places the interests of a particular political party above those of the Afrikaner people.

"It is well known that for months I have done all in my power to persuade the organisation to place the interests of Afrikaners higher than those of a political party," Prof Boshoff said. The executive has now made it clear that different points of view cannot be accommodated within the organisation. The executive has trangressed the fundamental principles of the organisation and the rights of individual members. I have now decided to make my resignation as a member of the organisation publicly known. I am considering the most fruitful way in which I can devote my life to the service of South Africa."

CP Leader on Broederbond Split

MB311939 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1900 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Conservative Party [CP] leader Andries Treurnicht has commented on the split within the Afrikaner Broederbond [AB] over the constitutional proposals. In a statement, Treurnicht says the Broederbond is choosing sides in one of the most serious disputes that has rocked Afrikanerdom and says the AB is choosing what he calls the wrong side. He says the Broederbond has, in his words, become the divider of Afrikaners. Treurnicht has called on Afrikaners to reject the body's acceptance of the constitutional proposals.

UDF Demonstration Held

MB300530 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] There've been several placard demonstrations in the Johannesburg area. In the protest, members of the United Democratic Front [UDF] have showed their objection to the new constitution. Demonstrations have been held in the city centre, in Bosmond, (Nuclear), Coronationville, and Western Township. (Ismael Mahommed) a member of the UDF Transvaal Executive describes the Bosmond protests:

[(Ismael Mahommed)] Police came, circled around with dogs in the cars. Some abuse was hurled at us, but only at a later stage the police actually came and confiscated my particular placard and that of all other demonstrators. When we tried to protest they

said, well, we can always go and get other placards. Photographs were taken of some of the demonstrators and their names and addresses taken down. There's a tremendous mood, you know, for people showing interest in our posters indicating by raised fists, and so on, their support of the demonstration taking place.

ANC To Disrupt Referendum

MB311747 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] The minister of law and order, Mr le Grange, announced in Pretoria this afternoon that he had reliable information that the banned ANC was planning to disrupt the referendum campaign during the next few days. Mr le Grange emphasized though that the police and other security forces were prepared for any eventuality and that law and order would be maintained. He gave voters the assurance that the police would guarantee their safety when they visited polling stations on Wednesday. Mr le Grange said that the communist-controlled ANC had issued a statement in Lusaka in which, among other things, appealed to whites to vote no on Wednesday as an act of rejection of the apartheid system. The ANC said that by voting no white voters would be joining the overwhelming majority of their people, black and white, in their various organizations, trade unions, and women's, youths, and teachers organizations, and the United Democratic Front who rejected the divisions of their country and people.

ANC Official Cited on Plans for Increased Struggle

MB310953 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] The ANC has declared its intention to raise what it calls the liberation struggle in South Africa to the same level as it was in Rhodesia before the Lancaster House talks. In a radio and television program last night, a South African Broadcasting Corporation [SABC] newsman quoted a senior ANC official in London, (Govan Mbeki), as saying that negotiations between the South African Government and the ANC would be futile at this stage. (Mbeki) said that chaos had forced the Rhodesian government into the Lancaster House meeting, and he indicated that the ANC wanted a similar situation to develop in South Africa.

Several British authorities on terrorism were interviewed. A former director of the International Institute for the Study of Conflict, Mr (Brian Crozier), said the ANC and the South African Communist Party [SACP] were practically the same thing, and that the ANC was Moscow-controlled. This also applied to SWAPO. A member of the Central Committee of the SACP, (Sonia Bunting), conceded in the program that the party had been kept informed of attempts by an SABC reporter to interview the ANC. She referred twice to the alliance between the ANC and the SACP.

A senior member of the Israeli parliament's foreign affairs and defense committee, Mr (Ahud Elmer), criticized Western governments for harboring terrorist organizations. He said this was the typical double standard Western hypocrisy of some countries, which were anxious not to suffer from terrorist acts themselves, but who were indirectly enncouraging terrorist movements by hosting their so-called political representatives.

A British authority on revolution and terrorism, Dr (Richard Clutterburk) of Exeter University, commented on how susceptible the South African Government was to overthrow by hostile forces. He said there was no likelihood of that happening, as the relationship between blacks and whites on a normal working level was more related in South Africa than anywhere else in Africa.

Prime Minister Claims Sufficient Oil for Embargo

MB311312 Johannesburg Rand Daily Mail in English 31 Oct 83 Business Day Section p 1

[By Simon Willson]

[Text] The Government has made a confident economic statement about South Africa's oil supply. It came virtually unnoticed in a speech by the Prime Minister at the Cape provincial congress of the National Party at George. Listing what he believed were his Government's achievements over the past five years, Mr P.W. Botha mentioned as one of them the fact that SA's strategic oil reserves were now large enough to enable it to survive a total oil boycott. It is the first time the Government has claimed in such confident and defiant terms that SA is invulnerable to an oil embargo.

The point about Mr Botha's statement is that it was not qualified by a reference to the duration of any boycott. He set no time limit to any such embargo — the implication being that SA could survive almost indefinitely. But oil industry analysts say that survive is the operative word in the statement.

Although SA would not come to a halt without foreign oil as it would have done 10 years ago, the economy could run at only a severely restricted level of activity if oil imports ceased, it is said. However, never before has the Government been so confident about SA's capability to keep essential services and economic operations going in the event of an oil embargo.

What has led to this sudden and, in view of the authorities' moves to restrict oil supply information, unexpected declaration? Observers think the authorities' arithmetic has shown that SA's strategic oil reserves are now big enough to allow, in the event of a boycott, a national swtich-over to an oil-conservationist economy and an increase in domestic petrol production. Before the reserves were depleted, the theory goes, SA would have adjusted its production and consumption patterns sufficiently to adapt to the new oil-supply situation. Hence, in hypothetical terms, SA could be invulnerable to an international oil boycott with no time qualification.

Statistical data on SA's oil consumption and reserves are classified in terms of the Petroleum Products Act. But, in the vacuum left by the clamp on hard information, estimates abound. Current speculation is that the strategic oil reserve is equal to about three years' consumption. SA has more crude oil in reserve relative to the size of its economy than any other oil-importing nation. There have been suggestions that SA's oil-storage facilities are now

fully stocked, which could be another reason for Mr Botha's confident statement.

Add to reserves the one-third cut in consumption attainable by fuel restrictions of the sort imposed in the 1970's, and the estimate that Sasol I, II and III in full production will supply about 40 percent of SA's petrol requirements. Another Sasol plant and methanol and ethanol plants could be started in the event of a boycott, and at least 2 percent of SA's vehicles could be electrified.

When all these factors are taken into account, experts think SA could survive an oil boycott for at least 10 years. This whole hypothesis was put to Mr Sarel du Plessis, Director-General of the Department of Mineral and Energy Affairs. "I cannot give the same interpretation as you to the Prime Minister's words," he said. "The way I understand the Prime Minister's statement is that SA will be able to brave out an oil boycott. Like all oil-importing countries, SA is vulnerable to oil boycotts, but within economic and manpower constraints, we have made adequate provision for any type of crisis."

SWAZILAND

Official Denies Government Reshuffle Planned

MB010715 Mbabane The Times of Swaziland in English 1 Nov 83 p 16

[Excerpts] The Director of Personnel Management, Mr Shadrack Sibanyoni, has dismissed as nonsense the reports of a huge reshuffle in the civil service. Mr Sibanyoni told *The Times* during an interview that the huge reshuffle reported by the Johannesburg *Rand Daily Mail*, never existed. In its report the paper said the reshuffle was believed to stifle opposition to the government. It said key civil servants have been moved to other ministries.

The Civil Service Board has released a list of promotions and transfers affecting mostly public servants in the middle grades. The promotions and transfers are with effect from today.

In its report the *Rand Daily Mail* also made reference to 600,000 potential Swazi voters. Government has put the number of people elible to vote in this country at 200,000. The country's entire population is estimated at about 600,000.

Bhekimpi Statement to Press on Elections 26 Oct

MB281628 Mbabane Domestic Service in siSwati 1630 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Statement to press by Prime Minister Bhekimpi Dlamini at his office in Mbabane on 26 October — recorded]

[Text] My fellow countrymen. As the prime minister of Swaziland, I deem it fit that I should take this opportunity to address the Swazi nation. My fellow countrymen, I hope you did hear at the royal cattle byre from the electoral commission that has been touring the country that on Friday, 28 October 1983 all Swazis will participate in the general election. I hope that it is clearly understood that the whole Swazi nation will participate in the elections. Whatever their skin complexion, white or any other variant, as long as they are registered Swazis, it is their duty to participate in elections, because it is in the elections that the Swazi nation will be accounted for, participating freely in its task. For any country to receive any international standing, it is usually that country's electoral proceedings that are used as a yardstick for judging the political health of the country. In a sick nation elections are unknown, but in healthy nations elections are indicators of the soundness of those nations.

As you have already been informed, my countrymen, on this day all Swazis will enjoy an official holiday. No one should stay home giving as an excuse that since it is an official holiday I will tend my fields, or I am going out courting, or whatever available excuse. That is why we made that day an official holiday, so that all the people would be free from any anxieties about going to work. Thus the people will go to the polling stations with happy thoughts. There will be no excuse about employment precluding attendance to the elections. It will be known that whoever does not participate it will be because he or she had decided not to do so on her or his own accord and not for reasons of employment. That is why the government gave its blessing on this day as an official holiday. We will all go to the polling stations brimful with happiness to enable us to elect those men who will represent the listed districts. All this will be done with happy hearts.

It does happen that when it is a day like this one people tend to indulge in alcoholic beverages. Others frolic in other pleasures with the end result that by the time they arrive at the polling stations they are completely oblivious to the significance of the event. It has been gazetted that on this day there will be no liquor sales available at the usual retail outlets in electoral districts in Swaziland. From early morning on Friday there will be no one entertaining guests with alcohol, whether it is the urban areas or out there in the rural areas where the chiefs have control. All God's people will participate in the elections with sober minds, and after that they can freely enjoy themselves, having discharged their obligation to the nation.

For any country to enjoy sound political health depends on its inhabitants, just as you, Swazi people, when you participate in the elections will be giving sustenance to the health of your country. You will choose your representatives without anyone influencing your choice. You will have satisfied yourselves as to the suitability of those candidates for the job of the electoral college, the electors, in the Kingdom of Swaziland. They will in turn elect the members of parliament for the next parliament. This is what we wanted to let you know so you could be well informed and knowledgeable about the situation.

It has been publicized that every person will file behind his chief or headman — district commissioners in urban areas — according to the requirements of that individual. For those in towns, do not stay away saying that your chief is not present in your town. You will follow those councillors that have been delegated this job in the towns. For example, the district commissioners will have the lists for the districts appropriately catalogued. Those who have the means of going home are free to vote in their home constituency, but those without any means of transport will exercise this privilege where they are located, even in the company compounds.

We sincerely request that all Swazis conduct themselves in good manner on this particular day. We hope that you will act respectfully. Make it a day of peace for the Swazi nation. Make it a good day for the Swazi nation. There should be no disturbances on this day. The Swazis should comply with what they are instructed to do. Each and every one should follow instructions to the letter without deviation. We do not expect any deviations from the appointed procedure. We sincerely request the nation to behave with respect for itself, to conduct itself in such a fashion as to bring credit to the nation, as has always been the case. Swazis are renowned for their respectfulness and peacefulness. Swazis do all their tasks in the spirit of kindness, mercy, love, and peace. Since we started having elections in the 1960's, there has never been any disturbance during elections. Everything has just gone according to the rules. We hope that today the same principle will hold, fulfilling our aspirations as Swazi people.

Newspaper reports say there are those who are grumbling about elections. There is nothing wrong with the elections. All of us are going to participate. These elections were inaugurated by the king in the not-so-distant past, that is, in 1978. The king even said that we should try something new, abandon the Westminster type of elections and attempt our own African-model elections to find out why they are not considered suitable, if there are any valid reasons not to use them. Even the other electoral systems were adopted by their users simply because they served their purposes well. We have tried the Westminster type of elections with distasteful results on more than one occasion. We realized that these elections engendered animosity and envy, dangerous elements to the Swazi way of life.

We the Swazi people do not like divisions and dissent within the nation. Thus, when we go to the polls we move as one person, completely united, to elect those representatives that will attend to the legal needs of the country. We do not go to the polls as factional rivals, each one pointing in a different direction as he fancies. That would create contentiousness and factionalism.

We are thankful to his majesty for having introduced us to our own unique electoral system, as we are now doing this exercise for the second time. In 1978 matters worked out very well, and even this time we are hopeful that nothing amiss will crop up. Each and every sovereign country chooses its path for development according to the suitability of procedures for its needs. Each country constantly reviews operational techniques according to changing needs of the society. No one says we are doing this because the people in the United Kingdom or in the United States do it that way. You simply cannot adopt a procedure as a whole without finding out about its suitability to your needs. You shall do what is to the benefit of and fitting for the Swazi nation. Every nation has its ways of doing things, all the nuances that go with it — even us, the Swazi people. We expect you to shoulder your obligations in the elections because it is in the elections that the nation is molded into one, and it is also here that the cohesiveness of the nation is demonstrated beyond doubt. A united nation works in unison. Any kind of division indicates some disjointedness somewhere along the line, and its efforts will not be blessed as a result. However, if the nation is united, it will be blessed with intelligent representatives endowed with many faculties and abilities.

My fellow countrymen, it has been pointed out that no racial discrimination is involved in the electoral procedure. It has been gazetted that anyone over the age of 18 years who meets the requisites of Swazi citizenship is entitled to vote. We hope that each one of us knows exactly what our age is. There won't be bearded folks not voting because they plead infancy. It is our hope that all of you, our sisters, brothers, mothers, and fathers, will all participate in this royal mission, which is of utmost importance since it is here that we hope the country will find salvation.

I have already pointed out that there were grumblings regarding the elections. These grumblings did reach our ears. Some folks are complaining about this and that. My grumbling countrymen are off the track. They are victims of ignorance, or it may be the result of foreign influence that has affected them such that they are now afraid to acknowledge their own cultural bias. Whatever is yours, you are able to sort it out until it fully serves your needs. It is a painstaking task that involves a great deal of experimentation and introspection. You simply do not abandon it and prefer somebody else's because theirs has been sorted out.

Even with our elections, if there are shortcomings that become evident as we try our own method, we shall then make appropriate adjustments fitting the situation, by small degress, unhurried by self-seeking selfish people who are always in a hurry to get immediate returns. We will inquire from the Swazi people as to what they see as improper and then finely adjust the mechanism in due course — just as his majesty definitely stated that we were conducting an experiment in this political procedure, always taking one cautious step at a time until our self-assurance is firmed up. Even today we are hoping that we are still on the royal track that his majesty laid out for us. It is unimaginable that we could change the electoral procedure so soon after his majesty's death in such a hurried fashion that it would appear we were blaming the king for initiating this experimental system. We will follow the tracks he laid out making adjustments confidently in the near future or even in very distant times. So far we are convinced that all will go well, as we, the elders, are convinced that there is nothing wrong so far.

We are very candid in our electoral procedure. We select the candidate of our choice in broad daylight with no clandestine deals as manifested in the secret ballot. We simply point out the candidate, and the candidate himself also realizes and feels that he is being voted into the position because the people have put their trust in him. Our system is a fair one, no clandestine deals. If the candidate has the appropriate qualities, he is selected. Those candidates of questionable truthworthiness are sidestepped in broad daylight before God and everybody. People simply file through some other gate representing the one they trust.

There are reports that there are those who want to interfere with the general elections. Rumors of pending trouble have been brought to us. We are quite aware and ready for any eventuality. We are on guard: Let them be informed that we are right on their heels, whatever they say or do, day and night, incessantly. There will not be any demonstrations. Rest assured that nothing spectacular will happen to mar the elections. Whatever the weather conditions — rain, thunder, or snow — nothing will stop us from participating in the elections. Everyone will go to the

polls. Do not be misled by anyone on election day. Just follow the official instructions and disregard all the rabble on the sidelines who seek to mar the elections. Police are out in full force to deter any foolishness on the part of the grumblers. The law will be applied ruthlessly to those who interfere with the elections.

At any rate, those who interfere with the elections will have to be questioned as to where they got the authorization to embark on such a venture, since all officeholders in Swaziland are given prior authorization before they assume their duties. But when someone just mushrooms up, without prior authorization, the law is quite definite about such culprits. We want these elections to proceed well, giving a good finished product. My fellow countrymen, you shall report all those attempting to interfere with the elections to the appropriate authorities.

My fellow countrymen, that is all that we wished to inform you of today, making a contribution to the national well-being, so that it might be clear that we will all participate in the elections as the people of Swaziland. There will be no one staying at home, stalling. Thank you, my fellow countrymen.

Election Officer Hails 83 Percent Voter Turnout

MB300723 Mbabane Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Indvuna Yetinkundla [Chief Electoral Officer] Mr Mndeni Shabalala yesterday announced the overall results of the general elections held in Swaziland last Friday. Announcing the results at parliament, Mr Shabalala commended the Swazi nation for turning up in the polling stations in large numbers. He said 83 percent voted this year. Mr Shabalala said in the four districts, Lubombo led by 44,981 people who turned up to vote. Hhohho followed by 43,609, Manzini 41,548, and Shiselweni district 36,377. He said in 1978 106,000 turned up to vote in the whole country, while this year the number increased to 166,535. He said six of the tinkundla [constituencies] received the largest number. Mr Shabalala said Mbabane Nkundla [constituency] led by 10,555, followed by Manzini Nkundla by 9,603, Lobamba 7,579, Mhlume 7,366, Big Bend 6,896, and Piggs Peak 6,178 people who voted.

Swazi Correspondent for RSA Paper Flees Country

MB311257 Johannesburg Rand Daily Mail in English 31 Oct 83 p 1

[By Norman Chandler]

[Text] Mbabane — The *Rand Daily Mail* correspondent in Swaziland, Mr Simon Ngwenya, has fled the country. He left on Saturday after security police called at his home on election day last Friday. It is believed the police were acting on the instructions of the Prime Minister Prince Bhekimpi because of questions Mr Ngwenya asked at a press briefing given by the prince on Wednesday.

Mr Ngwenya who has been the *Mail*'s correspondent in Swaziland since 1978 has previously been detained by the Swaziland authorities because of his newspaper links. In 1977 he was held for three weeks while working for the British Broadcasting Corporation and was this year detained for five days following a report which appeared in the *Mail*. Mozambique arrested him in 1980 and he was one of four Swazis exchanged for 74 Mozambicans later the same year.

Mr Ngwenya, 38, who was with me during a tour of constituencies on election day, appeared worried about police harassment and said his wife had been visited by security police. Mr Ngwenya's family was yesterday still in Mbabane.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Interviewed on Zaire Relations, Economy

MB272015 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1815 GMT 26 Oct 83

["Interview" on Zambian television of President Kaunda at Mass Media Complex in Lusaka on 25 October by unidentified "chairman"; Gabriel (Chikwanda), executive director of multimedia; Namushi Nyambi, acting editor in chief of *The Times of Zambia*; and Komani Kachinga, editor in chief of the *Zambia Daily Mail*; questioners not identified — recorded]

[Excerpt] [Question] Your Excellency, on our relations with Zaire, I think the whole nation is quite concerned that for a long time now our problem with Zaire — either the border issue like the (Kaputa) one where smuggling and the harassment of Zambians especially in the border areas have been going on for a long time — are there any measures, long-lasting measures, being worked out so that this problem can be solved, or are we going to just leave it to nature to solve?

[Kaunda] Comrade Chairman, this is a very difficlut question — not that I do not have the answers. I have the answer, and probably I would try to comment on this very, very sensitive matter without probably upsetting our brothers and sisters in Zaire. I keep saying to my compatriots in Zambia that once a country collapses it is very difficult to rebuild it — very, very difficult. They had the leader, Lumumba, who had a vision, and he was organizing the people of Zaire — the Congo then — toward that goal. When forces of exploitative international capital intervened, I think they believed that Lumumba was going to be pro-socialist, was going to bring in communism into Zaire. So they fought very hard and destroyed Lumumba with the help of Zairians and then problems began. Yes, fortunately [words indistinct] Comrade Mobutu — President Mobutu, Citizen Mobutu — came on to the scene and helped to reorganize his country.

But they have always the divisions that [words indistinct] when Lumumba died — of people going to tribal and provincial — have never really been cleared up. They have remained very strong. The MPR [Popular Movement of the Revolution] is doing everything possible to bring them together. They have remained full of suspicion, which, as I keep saying, breeds fear, which breeds hatred, which breeds conflict. So there is always conflict in Zaire, and President Mobuto is working very hard to bring people together. But I am afraid it is an uphill task, and I am not sure we can [words indistinct] a time on when that country will

recover. With this background it is difficult to see what we can do here. Let me give you an example, Comrade Chairman.

We agreed with the Zairian Government that we can sell them extra food that we have, but they must establish a system of trade with us. That is a straighforward matter. It is some years now. We keep hammering on this issue. It is not possible for our brothers to do that. Hence smuggling must — a shortcut must — be taken — smuggling. Now, when they stop smuggling, they must find another method of trying to feed themselves, to get the essentials of life in the neighboring provinces, and so, of course, they must go to the Northern Province, Northwestern Province, and so forth, because it is tight on the common border with Zaire so far as the Copperbelt is concerned. So they are doing that — escaping. They are going to other areas. It is a long border. We cannot police it all. It is very difficult for us.

So you see, Zambians must accept that that is going to be a very expensive problem for us, very expensive, because to keep our tough boys in the Army on the border for months on end is costing us a lot of money. If we say, we bring them back, it's opening ourselves to smuggling. Yet a simple system of organizing mutual trade between Zaire and ourselves is (?such) a big problem. But they are not able to do that because of the division within the state. So President Mobutu, hardworking as he is, has 101 problems on his hands. I do not know — I am not normally a pessimist, but on this issue of Zaire, I am afraid it's going to be with us a long, long time to come. (?And yet) it is our aim to do something about it.

[Question] Your Excellency, the economy has not fared well during the (?past 5 years), and as a result Zambia has borrowed some money from the IMF. At the same time I think it has been acknowledged by even you, sir, that the IMF imposes very tough conditions on developing countries. Does Zambia intend to continue borrowing money from the IMF if the economy does not improve during the next 3 years or so?

[Kaunda] First of all, I do not know of any country that does not borrow from somewhere, including, I think, Western capitalist countries. Again we go back to Britain, which we know better. About 2 years ago they borrowed 3 billion from the IMF. But this is not, Comrade Chairman, a reason for thinking of borrowing as a way of solving our problems. In my opinion, Comrade Komani's question is very, very important.

We have to think of production in terms of copper. I would like myself to see copper-producing countries think of cutting production on agreed scale. If we do not do that, copper prices are going to continue to go down until the requirements of developed countries pick up. How long that will take, I do not know, nobody knows. We hear of, yes, the American economy is picking up, the British economy is picking up, but we see nothing in real terms. What is required is for all copper-producing countries to cut down on production and then the laws of supply and demand will take their own course, and we would like to see copper prices picking up.

If we do not do that, Comrade Chairman, we are in real trouble for the next 5 years or so, until the economies of the developed countries are able to use more copper. As I say, how long that will take, we do not know. So [words indistinct] that blocked because, while I say — and it is reasonable, it is a correct analysis economically — I do not see, Comrade Chairman, Chile, Zaire, Zambia, Peru, the major copper-producing countries that export their copper agreeing. I wish they could, and I am approaching my colleagues in these countries. Better still, I am approaching them with certain views, because I do not see us agreeing on this issue. For so long as they are not able to agree there, and they must agree, copper prices are going to continue to go down, and so long as copper prices continue to go down, Zambia and other copper-producing countries, mono-economies, are going to continue to suffer. Their economies will be low down there.

So in Zambia we have to accept that we must take agriculture seriously indeed. It means restructuring the entire economy. That it why I am grateful to our collegues and comrades in the labor movement for having reached agreement on the 10-percent ceiling. I think the ball is in my court. I have been so busy — so many things — I have not dealt with this matter. I am hoping that soon after these celebrations we will come back to normal dealing with matters of state again and we can handle this matter quickly. There is going to be a lot of restructuring to be done of the economy.

It is going to mean a lot of hardships, because it means charging economic prices for agricultural produce. That means passing on the cost of producing food to the workers — the consumers, rather. And the consumers on paying — some of the consumers are workers. They will feel the pinch because the party and government are not able to subsidize that high cost of producing the agricultural foodstuffs that we need and the raw materials we need for our factories. So a lot of thinking, a lot of planning will have to go into this, and in this [words indistinct] must keep the producers on the land, — the workers, the party, and the government, the employers talking to each other, seriously analyzing these issues until we reach a balanced position.

We will need this to take care of the poverty datum line. Now that is being worked upon as usual, you know, by the Price and Incomes Commission. The mere reaching of the poverty datum line does not mean we have solved the issue, the question, because much depends on production of the nation. Are we able to produce more and earn not only foreign exchange but also build up the economy? Once we are able to reach that, Comrade Komani's question, Comrade Chairman, will be answered.

But the next few years are going to be really and truly tough for us. We have no choice in this matter because of the factors I have tried to explain so quickly. It is a subject which needs time on its own to deal with, but it is the key to everything that we want Zambia to be from now on.

ZIMBABWE

SAPA Reports Bishop Muzorewa Arrested 31 Oct

MB010825 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1021 GMT 1 Nov 83

[Text] Harare, Nov 1, SAPA — The former Zimbabwe-Rhodesia prime minister, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, who angered

the government when he called for diplomatic links between Zimbabwe and Israel, was detained under the country's emergency laws by Central Intelligance Organisation officers yesterday.

Describing the arrest as a "stupid, irrational and provocative move by the government," his son, Mr Philemon Muzorewa, said this morning: "They took him away at about 4pm in a yellow car and we have not seen him since." According to church associates who asked not to be named, the bishop is still being held at Harare Central Prison, where he spent the night. They did not know why he was detained. The bishop's lawyer, Mr Brian Eliot, was at the prison this morning trying to obtain access to his client.

Mr Philemon Muzorewa said: "I cannot imagine any other free country where a politician who makes a statement is denied access to his lawyers after arrest." The family of the 58-year-old bishop have been denied access to him.

Bishop Muzorewa heads the American-linked United Methodist Church in Zimbabwe, and as leader of the United African National Council, was prime minister of the short-lived republic called Zimbabwe-Rhodesia from February 1978 until the Lancaster House independence talks ended successfully in December. He and his party were trounced in the general election of the following February by Mr Robert Mugabe, who steered the new Republic of Zimbabwe to independence in April 1980.

Minister Announces New Campaign Against Squatters
MB311920 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Squatters at Borrowdale Race Course in Harare have been advised to report to the Harare City Council as soon as possible so that they can be allocated houses. The minister of local government and town planning, Comrade Enos Chikowore, made the announcement at a news conference today. Comrade Chikowore said an exercise codenamed Operation Cleanup, which started at (Musikambari) on Saturday, will be conducted nationwide. He gave squatters 48 hours to vacate their makeshift homes around the capital.

Minister Explains Police Roundup of 'Undesirables'
MB311917 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] The minister of labor and social services, Comrade Kumbirai Kangai, has issued a statement on a front-page report in today's *Herald* concerning the recent police action in rounding up several categories of undesirables. Comrade Kangai said there is no truth in the article that the police are picking up all unaccompanied girls. He stressed that there is no need for unaccompanied women going about their lawful everyday business and activities to be at all worried. The minister added that police action is aimed at those persons who are engaged in unlawful activities, such as begging, prostitution, squatting, and other categories. Comrade Kangai explained that his ministry is going to rehabilitate these undesirables by means of programs designed by the Department of Social Services in order to make them useful to society.

Reception Held for Soviet Women's Delegation
MB290710 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] The minister of community development and women's affairs, Comrade Teurai Ropa Nhongo, says Zimbabwe women can learn a lot from the experience of their Soviet counterparts. Speaking at a reception in honor of the visiting delegation of the Soviet Women's Committee in Harare last night, Comrade Nongo said the delegation's visit is a symbol of solidarity between the two countries. She said a change of women's status in any society is related to the country's development. However, she noted that it is difficult for any country to develop without peace. In reply, the leader of the Soviet delegation, Comrade Sayyera Sultanova, said the women of her country are willing to promote friendship and cooperation with Zimbabwean women.